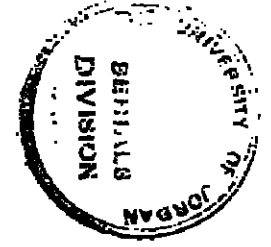


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**U.N. team visits bridge**

SOUTH SHOUNEH (Petra) — A three-member United Nations special commission investigating Israeli practices affecting human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories Tuesday visited King Hussein Bridge where they were briefed by Colonel Abdul Salam Al Jaafreh on the bridge's formalities. Col. Jaafreh briefed the delegation members on the reasons behind Jordan's decision to keep bridges on the River Jordan open with the occupied territories. The head of the commission, Stanley Kalpage (of Sri Lanka) said Israel was not cooperating with the committee and was not allowing its members to enter into the occupied Arab territories to investigate Israeli practices there. Mr. Kalpage said his visit to the bridge was meant to interview Palestinians coming to the West Bank and collect information about Israeli practices there. He said Palestinians had stressed that conditions under occupation are extremely bad and that unemployment rates among them is high.

# Jordan Times

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## Mauritanian envoy arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mauritanian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Mohammad Salam Ould Akhal arrived here Tuesday to convey the condolences of Mauritania to His Majesty King Hussein, members of the Hashemite family and the Jordanian people over the death of Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother. He was received upon arrival by Minister of State Fawwaz Abu Al Ghanam.

## Saudis donate \$20m in aid to Palestinians

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia on Tuesday donated \$20 million for development projects for Palestinians in the Israeli occupied territories, the official Saudi Press Agency said. It said Finance and Economy Minister Mohammad Abal-Khalil and an official from the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) signed an agreement to coordinate "the implementation of the projects." It said the \$20 million was part of Saudi pledges to give Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip \$100 million to help them set up an authority as part of an international effort to finance the accord signed last September. The agency said that under the agreement, UNRWA would carry out several development, health care and social facilities projects in the West Bank and Gaza.

## Hamas 'not bound' by Israel-PLO accords

DAMASCUS (AFP) — The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, said Tuesday it was not bound by agreements between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). In a statement to AFP here, Hamas denounced the self-rule deal for Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip and Jericho, which is due to be signed Wednesday in Cairo. The accord was "contrary to the wishes of the Palestinian people," the statement said. The statement also rejected an accord on the future economic relations between the two sides signed in Paris on April 29, saying it was the start of "Zionist hegemony in the region."

## Heavy mortar fire rocks Kigali

KIGALI (AFP) — Heavy mortar fire rocked the Rwandan capital Kigali on Tuesday as rebel leaders and government ministers gathered in Tanzania where the United Nations is trying to bring them to the negotiating table. The headquarters of the rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) in east Kigali came under heavy fire from government forces, said Abdul Kabia, executive director of the U.N. assistance mission in Rwanda. The rebels returned fire from different parts of the capital, targeting a military camp in the south-east and other government positions in the south, said Mr. Kabia. An international official in Kigali said the rebels, surrounding Kigali, "could take the city any time they want" (see related story on page 8).

## Gaza water supplies in jeopardy — Israel

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The Palestinians are not ready to take charge of water services in the Gaza Strip where the result could be shortages, the head of Israel's water board has warned. With the agreement to launch autonomy due to be signed on Wednesday, Israel's water commissioner Gideon Tsar said: "Despite the announcement of the establishment of a Palestinian water authority two weeks ago in Tunis... there is no sign of such a body. Over-pumping in Gaza amounts to 30 million cubic metres a year. There is sewage pollution from all sorts of sources and a lack of licensing to control drilling. I can definitely see a situation in which the water system collapses unless a central water authority is quickly established."

# Optimism prevails despite late snags in self-rule deal

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin met for crisis talks in Cairo on Tuesday night as the clock ticked towards the time set for signing a historic accord on self-rule for Gaza and Jericho.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak joined in the 11th-hour discussions at the presidential palace, an Egyptian official said.

Earlier, Mr. Arafat told reporters Israel had reneged on parts of a draft accord and that Norwegian Foreign Minister Bjorn Tore Godal had to persuade him to attend Wednesday's ceremony.

"They (the Israelis) are hesitating and making manoeuvres. I am ready to dance but I need a partner," he said on his plane.

"Last night they had retreated and again they put some more conditions which had not been mentioned before. On

some points which had been settled they retreated," he added.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, asked if there was a crisis, said: "Maybe a little bit. That is normal. We need a crisis before the signature. We invite it."

"The delegations are still working and I am sure we will reach an agreement in the last night of many nights," he added. "Even if they (the disputes) are not solved, time has its limits and tomorrow we shall sign."

Among 10 key problems to be resolved was an Israeli demand for the right to send troops to Gaza and Jericho if its security was threatened.

But a member of the PLO Executive Committee, who asked not to be named, said that the Palestinians refused to grant Israel "the right to intervene militarily in the autonomous territories."

Mr. Rabin said Monday the Israeli army would not hesitate

to enter the Jericho autonomous region if necessary.

He said if the self-rule accord did not give Israel the right to intervene, it would do so even without a green light from the Palestinians.

The issue of Palestinian prisoners would also be under discussion.

Israel was demanding that prisoners pledge to approve the self-rule accord and renounce violence as a condition for their release.

Mr. Arafat assured senior PLO officials at the weekend he would oppose the Israeli conditions "to the last."

The two leaders were also divided over Mr. Arafat's official title, Israel refusing to let the PLO chief describe himself as "president" once self-rule was launched.

The PLO official said Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat would have to settle the question of Palestinian rights over territorial waters and the southern coast of the Gaza Strip — the

Mawassi region adjacent to the Gush Katif settlement block.

The use of major roads in the Gaza Strip and the Rafah crossing-point also remained to be resolved.

Initially Mr. Arafat and Rabin were only expected to clear up two key issues: The size of the autonomous Jericho and Palestinian demands for the presence of a policeman on the King Hussein Bridge linking Jordan with the West Bank.

Another Palestinian official said there were still differences over the scope of Palestinian law in Gaza and Jericho, although PLO chief negotiator Nabil Shaath announced Sunday that both sides had agreed on the issue.

The agreement, under negotiation for the last six months, will clear the way for the first Israeli withdrawal from the Palestinian areas it seized in the 1967 Middle East war.

Dozens of Palestinians gathered in the centre of Jericho clean their city on the eve of the signing in Cairo of the accord on the implementation of Palestinian autonomy in Jericho and in the Gaza Strip (AFP photo)

# No interceptions, but no Aqaba arrangement yet — Majali

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali said Tuesday no Jordan-bound ship was intercepted by the enforcers of the sanctions against Iraq after the April 25 meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in London.

During that meeting, Mr. Christopher announced that subject to "some fine-tuning" Washington was accepting Jordan's proposal to replace the sea-based inspections by American-led warships with an on-shore sanctions verification regime.

Dr. Majali, in a meeting with Egyptian reporters ahead of Thursday's meeting here of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian

Higher Committee (see page 10), said that despite the acceptance announced by Mr. Christopher no further steps had been taken to place the sanctions-verifications regime at Aqaba.

The fact that no ship was intercepted after the London meeting does not automatically mean that the inspectors have called off the maritime interceptions, Dr. Majali said.

At the same time, Dr. Majali reaffirmed Jordan's position that it would not allow any "inspection" of cargo at Aqaba. Lloyds Register, the international neutral agency nominated to take over the sanctions-verification regime, was free to "observe" incoming and outgoing cargo at Aqaba when Jordanian customs inspectors open them as

required by the Kingdom's laws and regulations, he said.

The agency, he said, reported to the U.N. Sanctions Committee on its observations.

Beyond that, Dr. Majali added, Jordan would not accept any arrangement that would infringe upon its sovereignty.

In his comments to the Egyptian journalists, Dr. Majali welcomed the resumption of meetings of the joint Jordanian-Egyptian committee and expressed hope that the meeting would lay the cornerstone for restoring Arab cooperation and coordination.

He said that the committee will also discuss means to bolster political relations.

(Continued on page 10)

# Syria says its offer could lead to peace

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syria said Tuesday that the proposal it has given to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to take to Israel could lead to lasting peace in the Middle East.

"Israel's actual and positive response to these ideas and to U.N. Security Council resolutions relating to the Middle East peace process could help in achieving peace," Radio Damascus said.

It said that the Syrian proposal "emerges from a real desire" to establish a just and comprehensive peace that would guarantee the rights of all parties.

"After Christopher's talks with President (Hafez) Al Assad in Damascus, the ball has moved to the Israeli

# Jordan, in last-minute change, decides to attend Cairo signing

By Nermeen Murad Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan on Tuesday dispatched its State Minister for Foreign Affairs Tala Al Hassan to Cairo to attend Wednesday's signing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)-Israel self-rule agreement after visible hesitation and an earlier decision to boycott the ceremony.

Informed sources said Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali on Tuesday gained support for his argument to send a top-level Jordanian representative to the signing ceremony despite Jordanian dismay at the lack of PLO coordination with Jordan and the continuing naval blockade on Aqaba.

The decision, which seemed to have been a compromise between sending a more

senior-level delegation or dispatching no representative at all, was taken by the Cabinet at its regular meeting yesterday.

"President Huseini Mubarak had personally invited His Majesty to attend the ceremony and this invitation was declined," said a well-informed source. Another source said that the King had excused himself by pointing to the 40 days of mourning at the Royal Court over the passing of Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf.

Egypt later extended another invitation to the prime minister and the minister of state for foreign affairs to attend the ceremonies, but this suggestion was also turned down, with Jordan opting finally for sending the minister

(Continued on page 10)

# Mandela, de Klerk discuss sharing power

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Nelson Mandela and President Frederik de Klerk held power-broking talks Tuesday as the country prepared for Mr. Mandela's glistening inauguration despite more vote-count snags.

President-elect Mandela spent nearly eight hours in discussions with the outgoing De Klerk in Pretoria, where Mr. Mandela will be sworn in Tuesday as president.

His election as president by the new all-race parliament was postponed from Friday to Monday, the transitional authority announced, apparently because of the slowness of the vote count.

Official spokesmen would not speculate on the carve-up of cabinet portfolios the two

men were said to be negotiating.

Under a new interim constitution, any party that gets five per cent in the election will be entitled to a cabinet post.

That will probably rule out any party other than the ANC, Mr. De Klerk's National Party (NP) and the Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP).

But Mr. Mandela hinted Monday at the ANC victory party that he was looking at co-opting leaders who failed to make the cut.

He named far right leader General Constand Viljoen, who is campaigning for a white homeland, and white liberal leader Zach de Beer of the Democratic Party, whose predecessor was for years the only voice of opposition to apar-

theid in the white parliament.

He called them "worthy South Africans who are going to make a contribution to the government of national unity."

Gen. Viljoen gave a cool reception to co-optation Tuesday, telling the Johannesburg commercial station radio 702: "I don't think so, not at this stage. I would have to discuss this with the new president-elect."

"But as far as I'm concerned," he said, "my real job is to be with my people and to find a place for the Afrikaner people" — an oblique reference to the white homeland, called a "Volksstaat," the white right is seeking.

As of Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. (1500 GMT), 12.07 million votes of about 22.7 million

votes cast had been counted.

The African National Congress (ANC) has won 62.5 per cent of the ballots counted so far, and on Monday night Mr. Mandela, president of the ANC, proclaimed victory in the election.

Persistent irregularities in the counting triggered more complaints Tuesday from IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

With 25 per cent of an estimated 4.6 million votes counted in his Kwazulu-Natal power base, Mr. Buthelezi's party was well ahead of archrival ANC by around 53 per cent to 32 per cent.

A recount was ordered in the vast Umhlati township outside the east coast city of Durban after the tally showed 75 per cent support for the ANC.

# Maze of annexes and stipulations give Israel final say in self-rule

By Lamis K. Andoni Jordan Times Staff Reporter

THE PALESTINIAN — Israeli agreement on autonomy that will be signed in Cairo today transfers responsibilities to the Palestinians but leaves the Israeli government a major, if not a final say, in determining crucial legislative and security issues.

The draft of the agreement and two annexes on withdrawal, security and civil administration made available to the Jordan Times yesterday indicate that Israel will retain the right to block Palestinian policies, decisions and moves in many areas.

The provisions included in the annexes provide for the setting up of layers of joint Israeli committees and sub-

committees that will in effect determine, monitor and run security and civil affairs.

The declaration of principles (DoP) signed last September stipulates that Israel will be in charge of external security and a Palestinian police force will be responsible for public order. Under the agreed-upon annexes, the Palestinian police force will be practically responsible for protecting Israeli security by undertaking the task of preventing Palestinian "terrorist attacks."

There are no clear provisions in the lengthy annexes that explain how the police force will be able to provide protection for Palestinians from the Israeli army or settlers, especially that the Israeli army reserves the right

to use the main roads in Gaza and Jericho.

Furthermore, Israel has asked that the temporary foreign force that will be stationed in Gaza and Jericho should be overseen by a joint security committee — a sign that it still rejects the principle of providing international protection for the Palestinians.

The high-profile role that Israel will retain as well as the emphasis on the security of the settlements and Israel that takes up one third of the documents have prompted some top-level PLO officials to describe the agreement as "a security disaster."

But Palestinian president Yasser Arafat and some of his aides have argued that the situation will change by the time the final-status negotia-

tions take place — not later than two years after the implementation of the autonomy accord.

Most provisions of the security and civil administration annexes are subject to review every six months or one year. Thus Mr. Arafat is said to be hoping that as the

consequently give Israel a pretext to demand a greater role.

Furthermore, the annexes divide the mechanism agreed upon in most areas and leave relevant decisions to joint Israeli-Palestinian committees to negotiate and approve Palestinian policies, moves and decisions.

One of the main flaws cited by Palestinian officials in the accord itself is that Palestinian legislations should be approved by a sub-committee accountable to the joint civil affairs coordination and cooperation committee, referred to as CACC in Annex II.

According to the accord and annexes II and III, four committees are entrusted with determining policies and

effectively supervising the role of the Palestinian authority during the interim period.

In addition to the CACC, a Joint Security Committee (JCS) and a district coordination office (DOC) will monitor and implement guidelines set by the Higher Joint Israeli-Palestinian Liaison Committee (JSC).

The functions and responsibilities of the joint committees and the affiliated sub-committees seem to leave very limited margin for the Palestinian authority to move without prior coordination with, if not approval of, Israel.

According to the annexes, the JSC, which will have five to seven members, will "recommend security policy

(Continued on page 10)



## Five executed for plot to kill Sedki

CAIRO (Agencies) — Five men were hanged Tuesday for trying to kill Egypt's prime minister.

As is customary in Egypt, the five went to the gallows in Cairo appeals prison with only a representative of the military court that convicted them and police as witnesses, relatives, journalists and other outsiders are not allowed.

The five, plus four who still have not been captured, were convicted March 17 of trying to assassinate Prime Minister Atef Sedki by detonating a bomb outside a suburban Cairo school last November.

The premier, passing in a motorcade, escaped injury but a 12-year-old pupil at the school died and 21 people were wounded, several of them her classmates. The incident caused an uproar among the public, as government-owned newspapers published many pictures of the dead girl, Shaima Abdul Halim, and the wounded children. Shaima was given a martyr's funeral.

President Hosni Mubarak, the only appeal from a military court, reaffirmed the verdicts and executions a month ago, on April 3. Five other men were sentenced to prison, and one was acquitted.

Authorities said the five went to the gallows about 30 minutes apart, long enough to let the official hangman, policeman Helmy Sultan, prepare for the next condemned man.

The extremist group Jihad, which assassinated President Anwar Sadat in 1981 and attempted to kill two other cabinet ministers last year, claimed the Sedki assassination attempt.

Jihad and Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah, the main extremist group, stepped up a campaign in 1992 to destabilise Mr. Mubarak's largely secular government and replace it with a strictly Islamic one. More than 360 people, mainly radicals and police, have died since then.

Meanwhile, police in south Egypt said a suspected extremist, labelled as "dangerous", was found dead with two sacks full of 100 kilograms of TNT early Tuesday after a burst of gunfire was heard.

Police said the body of Mohammad Salheen Abdul Aziz was found in Abnub, a small town in the troubled province of Assiut, 320 kilometres south of Cairo. A submachine-gun was found with the explosives. Police were investigating the circumstances of the death.

## Tenacity, persuasion helped Shaath cut deal

CAIRO (AFP) — Chief Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) negotiator Nabil Shaath had to use all his considerable powers of persuasion and tenacity to lead the Palestinian delegation skilfully through the often painfully slow

negotiations after eight months of dealing with Israeli counterparts, his natural optimism as finally paid off with the signing of the historic deal launching Palestinian self-rule.

Dr. Shaath, with his warm smile and lively sense of humour, is neither a professional politician nor a PLO apparition.

Now 55, he owes his success more to his flexible but combative nature, which helped him find ways to overcome obstacles and difficult times.

One such time was when he led a team of negotiators to Washington for talks completely unaware of the secret deal being struck in Oslo between the PLO and Israel.

The secret Norway talks resulted in the declaration of principles signed in September and the new push towards an overall autonomy agreement.

His powers of persuasion also served him well in the past, when he defended the Palestinian cause in Europe and the United States amid crises such as the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

owning the Team computer software company, which is going to set up the software for administering Palestinian autonomy in the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

He prides himself on never having been on the PLO payroll. Born in 1938 of a Palestinian father and Lebanese mother in Safad in Galilee, northern Israel, his family left for Egypt when Israel was created in 1948.

He studied in Alexandria before leaving in 1959 for the United States, where he became president of the Arab Students' Organisation.

In 1965 he returned to Egypt and was granted Egyptian nationality, taking up an active role in the country's political life.

The 1967 Middle East war prompted him to renew his links with the Palestinian movement, and in 1969 he left Cairo for Beirut.

While teaching at Beirut's American University he became a leading spokesman for the PLO's main Fatah faction, dealing with the foreign press.

But the start of the civil war in Lebanon led to differences with the PLO leadership and he returned to Egypt in 1976. A widower with three children, he constantly describes himself as "an optimist by nature."



VICTIMS: Two children with their mother were wounded by shrapnel from a rocket that landed in central Kabul on Monday (AFP photo)

## Hebron observer force due May 8

COPENHAGEN (AP) — Senior Palestinian and Israeli officials have signed an agreement to send a 160-man strong observer force to Hebron by May 8.

The group was named "Temporary International Presence in Hebron" and their presence in the occupied West Bank city is limited to three months.

The force will be made up of Norwegian, Danish and Italian soldiers who will be unarmed, wear white uniforms and have armbands marked "observers," according to the agreement.

"Their task will be to promote stability," said Zuhdi Al Terzi, a senior foreign policy advisor to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat. Dr. Terzi signed the agreement with Johanan Bein, a senior Israeli Foreign Ministry official, and government representatives from Norway, Italy and Denmark.

The Hebron document com-

es ahead of the expected signing Wednesday of the Israel-PLO agreement to implement Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank city of Jericho.

Following the Feb. 25 massacre of more than 30 Palestinians in a Hebron mosque, the PLO and Israel asked the three European countries to send observers to Hebron.

An advance group of 11 observers is currently in Hebron preparing the arrival of the rest of the force.

Mr. Bein warned against underestimating risks of the mission.

"Every peace mission has some danger to it, because in all operations there might be a madman, someone who wants to hurt the peace," he said.

The force will be made up of 35 Danes, 35 Italians and 90 Norwegians. Sixty soldiers will be field observers and the rest office staff or support personnel. The observers will be commanded by a Norwegian.

"According to the agreement they could be armed if they so wished for their self-defence," said Mr. Bein.

"Your countries have decided that it's safer not to be armed."

"We're not going to attack them, only a madman will. And then a pistol doesn't help," said Dr. Terzi.

The agreement said the observers are barred from entering any military installations or private homes without permission. Their stay could be extended beyond three months if all parties agree, it said.

Frederik Lehne, a Norwegian Foreign Ministry official, said his country had budgeted 20 million Norwegian kroner (\$3 million). Italian and Danish officials declined to reveal any amounts, but the three countries have agreed to pay for the force.

Asked about the costs, Dr. Terzi said, "there is no price for peace. Whatever you pay, it's always justified. Peace is priceless."

## PLO plans airstrips in Gaza, Jericho

By Soleiman Al Khalidi  
Reuter

AMMAN — A senior Palestinian aviation official said on Monday that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) would start building two airstrips in the Gaza Strip and Jericho after an imminent Israeli withdrawal from the two self-rule areas.

"It has been agreed in the Cairo talks with the Israeli side to construct Palestinian airports in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area," Fayez Zaidan, managing director of the Palestinian Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) and the general manager of Palestinian Airways, said.

He told Reuters in an interview the PCAA would immediately begin "constructing provisional airstrips on the start of the withdrawal of Israeli troops, and the entry of the Palestinian police and security forces."

Mr. Zaidan, who heads the PLO's aviation and space committee in the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo, said he expected the first passenger flights between the self-rule areas' provisional airstrips to begin next August.

Negotiators in Cairo are putting the final touches on an imminent agreement on Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho.

"Palestinian Airways will operate commercial flights between Gaza and Jericho and as a first stage international flights between the two areas and Cairo," Mr. Zaidan said.

He added that talks would start later on flights to and from other regional capitals.

But it would not be before early 1995 when construction of the airport's runways and equipping them with the necessary navigational equipment for landing and takeoff will be completed.

Mr. Zaidan said take-off and landing flights from the two airstrips would be restricted at first to two 50-seat passenger planes operated and owned by Palestinian Airways. He declined to give details.

Safety reasons necessitated this "number for landing and takeoff from provisional airstrips."

Four 20-seater planes would be reserved for the PLO's national authority members and self-rule administration while four helicopters would be reserved for civil defence tasks.

Two helicopters would be assigned for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's shuttles between Gaza and Jericho, the official added.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Japan gives Egypt \$39 million

CAIRO (R) — Japan agreed on Tuesday to give Egypt \$39 million to fix a leaking tunnel under the Suez Canal and fund medical services in the south of the country, the Japanese embassy said. A statement said the grant was signed by Japanese Foreign Minister Kuji Kakizawa and Egyptian Minister of State for International Cooperation Youssef Boutros Ghali. Japan had given \$30 million to help fix the Almadros tunnel, which is the only road link between the Asian and African continents, the statement said. Another \$9 million went towards improving medical services at six hospitals in south Egypt. Total Japanese grant aid for the tunnel project stands at \$63 million, while Japanese grants to Egypt as a whole have reached over \$700 million, it said. Mr. Kakizawa, who arrived in Egypt Tuesday, also met his Egyptian counterpart Amr Musa. He is due to attend Wednesday's signing in Cairo of the self-rule accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

### 'IRA turned down Iran deal'

LONDON (AFP) — The provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) turned down a request by Iran to execute three leading Iranian dissidents in exchange for arms and cash, the London Independent reported Tuesday. Tehran reportedly proposed the deal last November, but the IRA turned it down, the Independent said. The paper did not name specific sources, preferring to speak only of "Iranian sources who have contact with the information ministry." Ministry officials allegedly offered the IRA electronic surveillance equipment, Semtex explosive, surface-to-air missiles, submachine-guns and ammunition along with counterfeit bills worth a reported \$6 million. The proposed deal came at a meeting in Tehran. In return for the materials on offer, Iran allegedly asked the IRA to assassinate former Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr, who lives in exile in France, Javad Dabiran of the opposition Mujahedeen-e-Khalq and exiled actress Farzaneh Taidi, who lives in London. London last week accused Tehran of having links with the IRA and summoned Iranian Charge d'Affaires Gholamreza Ansari to the Foreign Office to demand that any contact with the group should cease. Tehran issued a strong protest against allegations of cooperation with the group and said the accusations were entirely without foundation.

### Ankara police chief sacked over unrest

ANKARA (AFP) — Ankara's chief of police, Orhan Tasanlar, was sacked Tuesday following an enquiry into violence which flared during a May 1 rally at which an opposition deputy was beaten by police. Interior Minister Nihat Metine said he had dismissed Mr. Tasanlar "in the interest of the enquiry" into the violence. Several dozen people were hurt during the officially sanctioned rally in Ankara after police moved in to beat demonstrators, who they said had refused to disperse. A Social-Democratic member of parliament was injured when police beat him with their fists and truncheons in a scene widely broadcast on private television.

### U.N. team visits Iran for Afghan talks

TEHRAN (AFP) — A U.N. delegation led by former Tunisian Foreign Minister Mahmud Mestiri has arrived in Tehran to brief Iranian officials on the situation in Afghanistan and seek help in brokering a settlement between rival forces in the war-torn country. Iranian state radio said Tuesday the U.N. delegation would brief Iranian officials on talks it held over the past month in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, and discuss the latest developments in Afghanistan.

### Kuwait embezzlement case referred to court

KUWAIT (AP) — The criminal court, whose jurisdiction in an embezzlement case involving a former oil minister has been challenged, on Tuesday asked another tribunal to resolve the controversy. The constitutional court will determine the legality of parliament's decision to rescind a law under which the former minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah, would have been tried by a special panel reserved for government officials, said the criminal court's presiding judge, Khaled Al Wugayyan. If the constitutional court upholds parliament's decision, the case will be referred back to the criminal court. Otherwise, Sheikh Ali, a member of the emirate's royal family, and four other defendants involved in the case would be tried by the special no-jury, five-judge panel.

## Shahak was Palestinians' deadly foe

TEL AVIV (AFP) — General Amnon Shahak, who negotiated the agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to launch self-rule, made his name liquidating senior Palestinian figures.

With piercing blue eyes and an athlete's build despite his greying hair, Israel's Deputy Chief of Staff spent most of his career with the army's most prestigious and secret unit.

The chief of staff's unit operates behind enemy lines and is considered the armed wing of the Mossad, Israel's feared intelligence agency.

On April 13, 1973, Gen. Shahak landed by sea in Beirut in the dead of night and assassinated three senior PLO figures: Mohammad Youssef Najjar, Kamal Adwan and Kamal Nasser, Ehud Barak, who is now chief of staff, disguised himself as an Arab woman to

accompany Gen. Shahak. However, the army's official biography of the 50-year-old does not mention the episode.

Nor does it recall the murder in Tunis of Khalil Al Wazir, Abu Jihad, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's number two.

Gen. Shahak, as military intelligence chief, orchestrated the killing in April 1968.

Born in Tel Aviv in 1944, Gen. Shahak joined the army at the age of 18 and became a paratrooper. After a spell in an armoured division, he was back with the red berets for the 1967 Middle East war.

The following year on March 21, he was at the battle of Karameh in Jordan.

Gen. Shahak was also in the thick of the fighting in the Sinai desert against Egyptian forces in the 1973 war.

When Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982, Gen. Shahak was

put in control of the Beirut region and the Shouf Mountains.

A year later he was appointed commander of Israel's central region, which includes the occupied West Bank.

In March 1989, the military intelligence chief dropped a bombshell in a report to then right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. He urged negotiations with the PLO.

"There is a real change in the organisation's attitude. It has accepted the existence of Israel," he wrote.

Gen. Shahak had to wait another four years to put his ideas into practice when Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin appointed him to head the autonomy negotiations on the basis of the Sept. 13 declaration of principles.

### D.I.G.

(The Italian Ladies of Jordan)

Express their deepest sadness and pain for the death of Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf and wish to extend to his Majesty King Hussein and the Hashemite family their sincere condolences.

## Turkey seeks to resume Iraq trade

ANKARA (AP) — After the loss of billions of dollars, Turkey may soon resume cross-border trade with Iraq that was halted during the Gulf war, an official said Monday.

But any commerce would violate the U.N.-imposed embargo on Iraq and put Turkey at odds with Western allies.

"Our intention is to relay a message to the United States and to the West that the damage from the loss of trade with Iraq came to an unbearable stage for Turkey," said Murat Karayalcin, the deputy prime minister.

At the Habur border station that the gate "will reopen in very near future."

He said Turkey did not want to violate the U.N. sanctions on Iraq, but he did not elaborate how it would be possible if Turkey allowed truck traffic resume.

"I am to see what can be done in view of Turkey's international commitments and the U.N. decisions," Mr. Karayalcin said.

Mr. Karayalcin's trip to Habur was part of Turkey's campaign to seek ways to gain compensation for its financial losses as a result of the Gulf war. At present, Turkey is

gripped by a skyrocketing inflation and other severe economic problems.

Turkey estimates its financial damage at \$20 billion because of the U.N. embargo on Iraq, imposed after Baghdad's invasion of Kuwait almost four years ago.

The government opened talks with an International Monetary Fund delegation on Monday to sign a standby agreement to help its financial troubles.

The embargo hurt Turkey economically by closing an oil pipeline and ending the lucrative cross-border trade with Iraq.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDER

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

#### PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 ..... Only  
18:00 ..... N.B.A. sport  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Le Journal De L'Histoire  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
19:45 ..... Great Moments in Science & Technology  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Too Close for Comfort  
21:10 ..... The Best of Magic  
21:30 ..... The World of The Thirties  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Poldark  
23:10 ..... Music Show — Paul Mc Carrey

#### PRAYER TIMES

06:17 ..... Fajr  
05:43 ..... Sunrise  
12:32 ..... Dhuhr  
16:12 ..... Asr  
19:21 ..... Maghrib  
20:47 ..... Isha

#### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedieh, Tel. 810740  
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622666  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel. 623236  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328  
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691  
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 611295

#### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Khamasi weather conditions will come to end today as temperatures gradually drop and humidity rises with winds becoming northwesterly moderate to active. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Walid Al Masri ..... 675485  
Dr. Rami Mzawi ..... 794788  
Dr. Khalil Jbali ..... 740740  
Dr. Mohammad Omran ..... 612332  
First pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nairowkh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Sadam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shimouni pharmacy ..... 637660  
Nairowji pharmacy ..... 623672  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632

AMMAN:  
Dr. Ahmad Qanu ..... (—)  
Al Ouds pharmacy ..... (—)

#### AMMAN

14/24 ..... 637111  
20/31 ..... 630341  
13/27 ..... 637777  
1830 ..... 630341

#### ZARQA

Dr. Rami Atallah ..... 98424  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

#### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Rescue ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 691228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843042  
Traffic Police ..... 696390  
Public Security Department ..... 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 697467  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Amman Municipality ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone ..... 010230

#### REPAIRS

Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 623101  
Jordan Television ..... 771111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 690100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815015  
Electric Power ..... 690100

#### COMPANY

Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 08-53200  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport ..... 08-53390

#### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/332  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642816  
Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642412  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
J. Amn ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmouni ..... 664171/4  
Shmouni Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 843845  
Al-Musaher Hospital ..... 667227/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/37  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen ..... 77101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 77511/26  
Al-Nahla Hospital ..... 89161/115  
Army, S.Marks ..... 602240/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155

ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)900560  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)96732  
Al-Hilma Modern Hospital ..... (09)967000

IRBID:  
Princess Isma Hospital ..... (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)372723  
Ibn Al-Nafies Hospital ..... (02)247100

AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

##### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

09:00 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
09:30 ..... Jeddah (RJ)

09:55 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
10:15 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
10:40 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
17:35 ..... London (RJ)  
17:40 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
18:25 ..... Brussels, Paris (RJ)  
19:00 ..... Madrid, Geneva (RJ)  
19:10 ..... Toronto, Montreal (RJ)  
19:20 ..... Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)  
19:55 ..... Rome (RJ)  
01:20 ..... Cairo (RJ)

##### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

10:35 ..... Cairo (MS)  
11:10 ..... Damascus (AZ)  
11:25 ..... Larnaca (CY)  
11:30 ..... Jeddah (SA)  
11:30 ..... Suva (FY)  
12:35 ..... Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)  
15:05 ..... Karachi, Abu Dhabi (PI)  
16:20 ..... Algiers (AA)  
18:00 ..... Paris, Damascus (AF)

##### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:30 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
11:15 ..... Rome (RJ)

11:15 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
11:35 ..... Berlin, London (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Casa Blanca, Tunis (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
20:30 ..... Colombo (RJ)  
20:45 ..... Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)  
21:00 ..... Riyadh (RJ)  
21:10 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
21:30 ..... Aden (RJ)  
22:00 ..... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)  
23:45 ..... Sanaa (RJ)

##### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:45 ..... Beirut, Paris (AF)  
09:15 ..... Beirut (ME)  
11:25 ..... Cairo (MS)  
12:10 ..... Rome (AZ)  
12:15 ..... Larnaca (CY)  
12:30 ..... Sanaa (FY)  
13:00 ..... Jeddah (SU)  
14:30 ..... Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PI)  
17:20 ..... Algiers, Sharjah (AA)  
00:25 ..... Amsterdam (KL)

### HIAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Dep. Amman ..... 8:00 a.m. every Monday  
Arr. Damascus ..... 5:00 p.m. every Monday  
Dep. Damascus ..... 7:30 a.m. every Sunday  
Arr. Amman ..... 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

Apple ..... 550/650  
Banana ..... 600  
Banana (Mukammal) ..... 620  
Cabbage ..... 160/100  
Carrot ..... 250/200  
Cauliflower ..... 260/200  
Cucumbers (large) ..... 150/100  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 200/100  
Eggplant ..... 180/100  
Garlic ..... 500/300  
Green beans ..... 220/180  
Lemon ..... 140/100  
Marrow (large) ..... 130/100  
Marrow (small) ..... 130/100  
Mushrooms ..... 430/320  
Orange ..... 420/220  
Onion (dry) ..... 180/100  
Onion (green) ..... 300/250  
Peas ..... 300/250  
Pepper (hot) ..... 300/200  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 300/200  
Potato ..... 350/220  
Tomato ..... 350/220  
String beans ..... 350/220  
Watermelon ..... 250/220  
Vine Leaves ..... 600/400



## JNRCS gives needy children JD 180,000 in four months

### Jordan observes Red Cross and Red Crescent Day

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — "Dignity for all — focus on children" is the theme of this year's world Red Cross and Red Crescent Day which will be observed in the Kingdom by the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS).

A society statement said that this year's anniversary, which falls on May 8, also marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The statement noted that the day will be observed by 161 national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies which have 124 million individual members and 350,000 employees around the world.

The JNRCS has prepared a full programme to orient the public in Jordan on the international humanitarian law through meetings and seminars for groups of youth and students around the country.

JNRCS has extended invitations to 260 children from around the country to visit the society headquarters in Amman where they will receive kits containing clothes, sweets, stationery and leaflets depicting the society's activities, said the statement.

The function, to take place on June 9, is part of the society's ongoing assistance to the needy children, which, for four months, has amounted to JD180,000 in value, said the statement.

Quoting a statement issued jointly by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the society said that 300 million people a year may be affected by disasters by the year 2000, noting that the strategic work plan for the 1990s details the federation's work in order to increase its capacity to improve the situation of the most vulnerable.

Although the banning of certain arms, such as landmines and blind weapons, can limit violence, effective measures must also be taken in peacetime, said the joint statement.

Widespread knowledge of international humanitarian law is essential to ensure that these fundamental rules are fully respected and implemented in times of conflict, the statement added.

It pledged that every member of the movement would continue to combat the suffering in this world and appealed to the public for help because, it said, everyone can contribute to a better world by respecting the rights, identity and dignity of others.

## Ministry of Agriculture warns against forest fires

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture Tuesday issued a statement to the public warning of the danger of fires, which annually destroy 30,000 trees, saying that the incidence of fires is higher between May and August, the dry and hot season.

The warning came from Ghaleb Abu Orabi, the ministry's secretary general, who said the civil defence last year had to deal with 54 forest fires that occurred on 1,299 dunums of land in different governorates.

This is a great loss for a country with limited means like Jordan which has 40 million trees planted on 750,000 dunums of land, said Mr. Orabi in a statement.

He said that the forests located in the governorates of Amman, Balqa, Irbid, Mafrqa, Zarqa and Karak, are mostly exposed to the danger of fires which are usually caused by

cigarettes thrown from passing cars, fires lit by people picnicking or farmers burning the remains of their products.

Mr. Abu Orabi said that during the summer many of the fires also happen because of pieces of glass left on the dry grass which can start a flame under the heat of the sun.

Referring to the Ministry of Agriculture's measures to prevent the spread of fires, Mr. Abu Orabi said that teams of workers have been entrusted with the task of removing dry grass within the forests and alongside the main roads, starting this month.

Urging the public to report the fires as soon as they are spotted, Mr. Abu Orabi said that the ministry was enlisting the help of various organisations and Jordanian citizens to help achieve the goal of "a green Jordan" by the year 2000.

## Kingdom still at low end of AIDS cases list

### Workshop to prepare plan for combatting deadly disease

By Elia Nasrallah  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Health Ministry Tuesday embarked on a workshop designed to prepare a national Jordanian plan for combatting AIDS in the coming five years although the Kingdom is still classified among nations with very low rates of AIDS cases.

"We are working on a medium-range plan for the 1994-1999 period aimed at promoting awareness mainly among the youth on how to

combat the spread of AIDS in Jordan," said Dr. Saad Kharabsheh in a statement to the Jordan Times.

The new plan, part of which will be covered financially and technically by the WHO, hinges on a wide scale campaign to spread awareness among the youth through leaflets, seminars and other measures, in cooperation with universities, health sectors, the media and other concerned parties," said Dr. Kharabsheh, head of the Health Ministry's Communicable Diseases Department.

"Ever since the discovery of the first AIDS case in Jordan, in 1986, the ministry has been launching a series of campaigns to combat the killer disease," he added.

Noting that the total number of AIDS cases in Jordan, affecting Jordanians, now stands at 70, Dr. Kharabsheh said that there have been 30 AIDS cases among non-Jordanians, but they were sent back to their home countries as soon as they were proved to be HIV positive.

"Since the start of 1994 only one AIDS case was registered

among Jordanians and three among foreign nationals," added Dr. Kharabsheh.

He said that over the past five years the Health Ministry tested the blood of nearly half a million people wishing to donate blood and found only 10 HIV positive cases among those tested.

"This is a clear indication that the Kingdom is one of those nations with a very low rate of AIDS cases, but this does not mean that we should be satisfied and fail to carry out campaigns against the disease," added Dr. Kharabsheh.

However, he said that most of the AIDS cases have been proved to be those of people who have spent some time

abroad either as expatriate workers or students.

The two-day workshop at the Amman Ambassador Hotel was opened by Acting Minister of Health Tareq Subeimat who stressed that there was need for intensive efforts on the part of governments worldwide, as well as concerned organisations and societies, to help fight the disease.

The Health Ministry's strategy in combating the AIDS, he said, is based on programmes for spreading awareness among the youth about ways to protect themselves from the disease and by controlling the blood transfusion and blood donation pro-

cesses in the Kingdom.

According to Dr. Omar Suleiman, the WHO representative at the workshop, the world AIDS cases are now estimated to stand at three million, mostly in Africa and Vietnam.

Participants in the workshop, representing various health sectors and other organisations, will review working papers which, among other topics, will cover epidemiological control, management of a national awareness programme, studies on youth sectors most exposed to AIDS, social and economic patterns that expose the youth to AIDS and obstacles to spreading awareness.

## Soccer hooligans face charges

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — More than 20 people are expected to go on trial on charges related to the April 23 rioting at Amman International Stadium, security sources and sources familiar with the affair said Tuesday.

Official police sources would only confirm that investigations related to the cases have been completed and the results sent to "the proper authorities."

But other sources said around 25 people, arrested during the rampage by fans of the Al Faisali and Al Wihdat clubs, were expected to be tried charged with rioting and damaging public property.

Among those detained were two Al Wihdat and one Al Faisali player, who are among those released on bail.

"A few remain in detention pending trial, which is expected to start soon," said one security source.

But sources at the Wihdat and Faisali clubs said they were told that there will not be any criminal trials related to the riots.

Hisham Abdul Monem, a Wihdat player who was in-

involved in the incident that sparked the fan violence, said he was bailed out of detention a few days ago.

"The matter is finished and settled as far I know," Abdul Monem told the Jordan Times.

Independent sources said no charges were expected to be pressed against any of the players, but those detained for outright violence at the stadium during the 45-minute melee were expected to face trial.

Meanwhile, both Faisali and Wihdat clubs said they would not allow the incident to leave scars in their relationship.

"It was regretful that such an incident happened," said a Wihdat member. "It cast a cloud on the entire soccer scene in Jordan, but we are determined not to let it linger."

A Faisali official said: "The entire episode is a closed chapter. The less said about it the better."

Similar reconciliatory mood was also evident in remarks by players carried in the local press.

Wihdat goalkeeper Nasser Ghadour, who was reportedly attacked on his way home after the violence, was quoted by a local newspaper that he was

not pressing charges against anyone.

It was one of the rare cases of mob violence at soccer games in Jordan. More than 100 people were injured during the incident. The Amman International Stadium suffered damages which its director Issam Arida estimated at that time to be between JD 7,000 and JD 8,000.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and senior officials deplored the violence and called on Jordanians to live up to the spirit of sportsmanship.

The Jordan Football Federation adopted disciplinary action against both clubs. Two players from Al Wihdat and one player from Al Faisali were barred for life; several others were barred from several games; and the two clubs were asked to pay damages to the stadium.

Sports officials said the damages were to be reduced from the allocations to the two clubs from the proceeds from gate collections for the season.

The rampage was not limited to the stadium. Fans attacked the premises of Al Wihdat clubs and caused extensive damages to its facilities.

Wihdat officials said they knew most of those responsible for the violence but declined to say whether they planned legal action against them.

"We are handling the affair as an internal matter of the club," said one of the officials.

## Cabinet names Abbadi to lead pilgrimage mission

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Tuesday formed the official Jordanian pilgrimage mission to be headed by Minister of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi.

The pilgrimage season will end around May 20 with the celebration of Eid Al Adha. The Cabinet was briefed by

Minister of Water and Irrigation Hisham Al Khatib on measures taken for the utilisation of the water resources in the Azraq Basin.

The government said last month that excessive pumping of underground water was fast depleting the Azraq water resources, causing an ecological imbalance.

## Conference stresses need for enforcement of environment legislation, international cooperation

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The human being's right to live in a clean and safe environment was the main call of participants at a conference held Tuesday, entitled "International environmental law."

"It is the basic right of all human beings to live in a safe and clean environment," said Ahmad Obeidat, president of the Jordanian Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution (JSCEP), addressing the opening session of the two-day conference.

Mr. Obeidat stressed the need for international cooperation that should ensure that this inherited right is enjoyed by everyone.

Mr. Obeidat pointed to Principle 1 of the Rio declaration which states the following: "Human beings are the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life."

He called for new methods and approaches regarding legislation and regulations to be implemented, acknowledging the fact that tradi-

tional methods in solving environmental problems are no longer sufficient.

"Economic reform, especially in the developing countries," Mr. Obeidat added, "should go hand in hand with the environmental reform."

"We need to create environmental strategic plans that link and balance economic development with environmental preservation, using regulatory and market incentives which run side by side with penalties," he said.

In the past, Mr. Obeidat said, environmental protection was of little importance in social and economic management in the Kingdom, "but times have changed as Jordan is now one of the pioneer countries in the Middle East to formulate a national strategy for the environment."

He said Jordan has drawn up regulations to protect the environment and has worked out environmental strategies to maintain a balance between economic and environmental development.

Mr. Obeidat said that until now there has never been a detailed and comprehensive

legislation dealing directly with the environment in all its aspects.

Three institutions, the Jordan Environment Society, the German Friendship Foundation and the Goethe Institut organised the conference to highlight and bring to the attention of the Arab World the importance of cooperation and coordination in this important field by making use of the European Union countries' experience.

The organisers invited specialised people from Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Tunisia, Morocco and Turkey.

Walter Rudel, Friedrich Naumann's representative, voiced concern over violations regarding toxic waste. "Although a law was implemented still, toxic waste is being dumped unsafely," he said, calling on all developing countries to cooperate together and with other organisations.

"It takes two, and developing countries should sign agreements to come up with an international understanding," Mr. Rudel told the spe-

cialists during a brief discussion.

"Human beings are not living up to the ethical requirements of responsibility and accountability needed in our scientifically and economically highly potential world," he said, referring to national strategies. "Governments have to interfere and provide legal protection and effective law-enforcement to the world's and every nation's endangered environment," he added.

"Unfortunately, laws are not taken seriously by most governments, and the development, improvement and enforcement of environmental law are still not efficiently handled by the legislators," said Mr. Rudel.

He warned of the consequences that will follow if legislations were not implemented and used properly and that will further endanger the already fragile sustainability of development and the conservation and protection of nature, calling on countries to develop their environmental policies, legislation and instruments of law enforcement.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### FILM

- ★ Film in Spanish entitled "El Rey Pasmado" at the Spanish Cultural Centre at 6:30 (Tel. 613077).

### CONCERT

- ★ Concert (by the National Music Institute) at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

### LECTURE

- ★ Lecture entitled "The Egyptian Art of Graphics" by artist Atiyah Hussein at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman in Jabal Luweibdeh at 6:00 p.m.

### POETRY RECITAL FESTIVAL

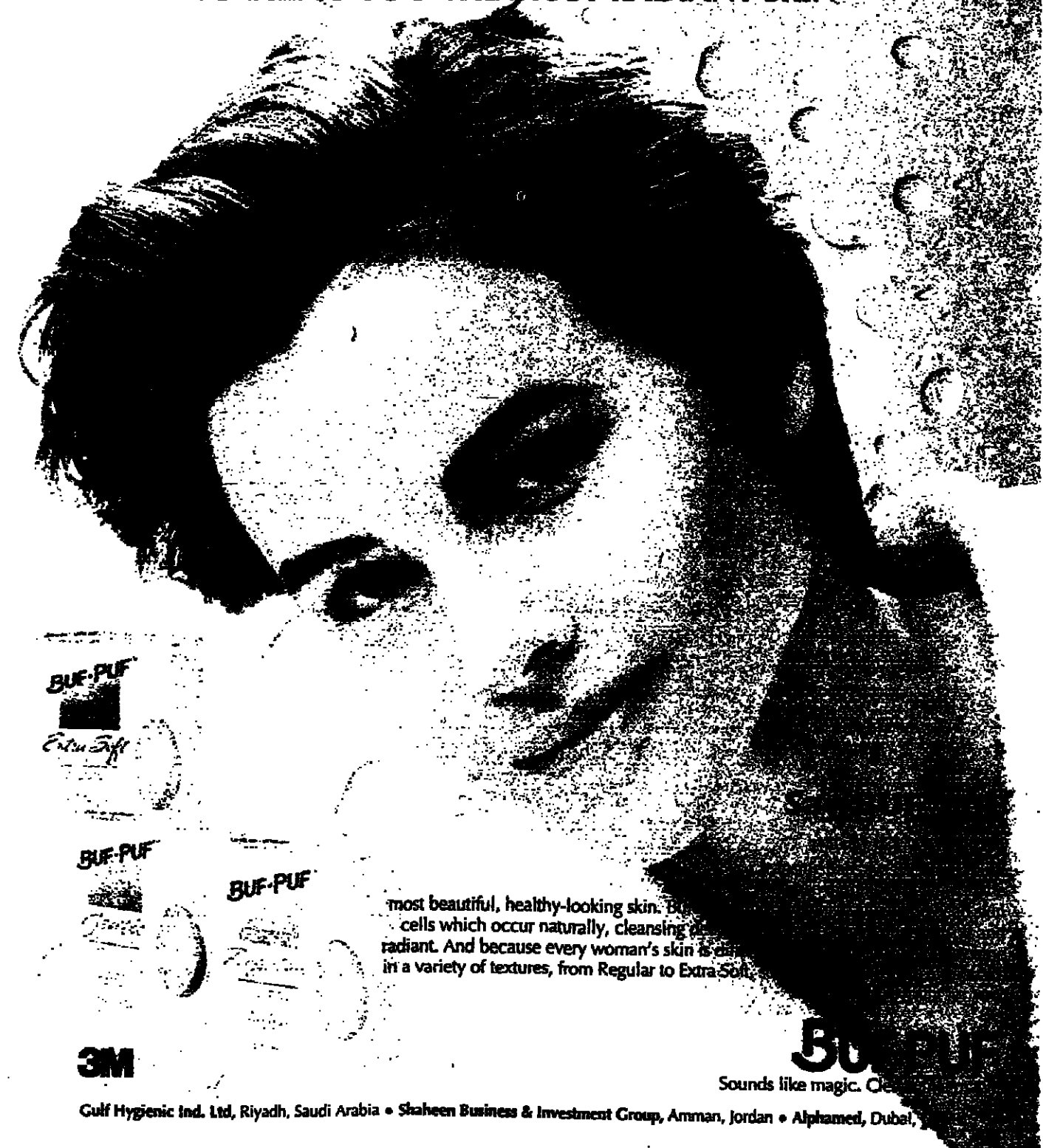
- ★ Poetry recital festival attended by students of Jordanian universities at the National Amman University auditorium at 4:00 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of paintings by artists Walid Sheel and Hazem Hamed at Alfa Art Gallery (Tel. 639303).
- ★ "Exhibition of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Food Industries '94" at the World Exhibition Centre, University Road (Tel. 837218, 847113).
- ★ Art exhibition by five Egyptian artists at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).
- ★ Exhibition by artist Mohammad Muharradin at Ab'ad Art Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition by artist Helmi El-Toumi at Baladna Art Gallery. (Tel. 687598).
- ★ Exhibition by artists Dr. Ali Ghoni, Hussein Da'sh, Adnan Al Sharif, Abdul Hussein Tawaj, Sahman Abbas, and Hafez Al Droubi at Orfali Art Gallery (Tel. 826932).
- ★ Jordanian-Iraqi contemporary exhibition by over 80 artists at Aln Art Gallery in Wadi Sagra (9:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.) (Tel. 644451).

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## Jordan Times

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## Coloured rights or blinded vision?

THE "ASSASSINATION" of Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana last month in a rocket attack on his plane may have triggered the recent tide of mass killing in the country between the Hutus majority and the Tutsi minority. Yet the seeds of the conflict in the African country that took the lives of no less than 100,000 in a span of few weeks were sown well before the creation and independence of Rwanda when tribal loyalties were the backbone of the Rwandan society. No real efforts were made by the Belgian colonial power that ruled the country prior to its independence to establish a Rwandan society superseding tribal loyalties. The primary blame rests nevertheless with the two major tribes in the country which continued to promote division on tribal grounds even after they gained their freedom and realised their political independence. No amount of external pressures can ever replace domestic action to establish a modern society in any given country where citizenship rights are given contemporary expression.

Now, it seems, the Rwandans are paying a heavy price for neglecting an internal crisis that was left for too long to fester. No wonder the first opportunity to ignite the tribal tension in the country exploded with a vengeance and on a scale unheard of in recent times.

Rwanda is also part and parcel of the international community which should not have stayed aloof of the bloody massacres that have occurred rather systematically ever since the shooting down of Habyarimana. The seemingly callous attitude towards the tragic events that were unfolding in the Central African country is simply inexcusable. When the infighting took such a heavy toll on the lives of the Rwandan people, the international community should have intervened in an effective way. The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) should have been the first to take a meaningful initiative to stop the indiscriminate killings. No such action was taken. And when U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali called for an immediate military intervention to stop the "genocide" warfare between the Hutus and the Tutsis, the major powers of the world were hardly moved as if the lives of black Africans are too insignificant as to arouse interest or concern on a global scale.

The irony in this and similar episodes is that we all talk so feverishly of human rights and how individual human rights are worth fighting for and defending at all costs. But when the lives of hundreds of thousands are at stake, no similar international outcry is made. The Western powers which rightly make a habit of ostracising nations that flout individual human rights remain studiously silent.

Now it is Rwanda where bloody tribal warfare has taken place. Earlier it was Somalia, Ethiopia and Sudan. Kenya and Nigeria do not fare much better either. Most developing countries are afflicted with similar time bombs. The real culprits are those of us who still promote distinctions between people on the basis of race, colour, religion, tribe or ethnic origin.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Tuesday criticised the Palestinian-Israeli economic agreement concluded in Paris this week because, he said, it does not help fulfil the national aspirations of the Palestinian people on the one hand and it tends to separate the Palestinians from the Jordanians on the other. The agreement signed in Paris on April 29 represented a Palestinian retreat from an economic agreement with Jordan and is tantamount to ending ties with Jordan unilaterally, said Fahd Al Fanek. While the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement signed in January 1994 clearly states that the Jordanian dinar remains the official currency during the Palestinian autonomy rule, the Paris agreement stipulates that the Israeli shekel is the main currency, said the writer. While the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement provides for the Jordan Central Bank to remain in control of banks operating in the West Bank, the Paris accord states that the Palestinians will set up their own institution to supervise monetary questions and banks operations, he added. While the agreement with Jordan stipulates trade exchanges with the Kingdom, the Paris accord sets up a joint Israeli-Palestinian customs office to control imports and exports operations, which means that trade affairs remain under Israeli control, said the writer. In short, he said, the Paris agreement sacrificed the Palestinian economic interests with Jordan and subjugated the Palestinian economy to Israel's desires.

AHMAD DABBAS, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily, Tuesday addressed the rising number of road accidents and reckless driving that has been causing so many losses in life and property. It is painful to see Jordanians observing World Traffic Day, which is occasion to contemplate measures to reduce accidents at a time when reports speak of a sharp increase in the number of those killed or injured on the road, said the writer. It is perhaps a coincidence that when traffic day is observed, 10 more people are killed and many more injured in one road accident, and it is regrettable to say that this incident is only one more in a long chain of accidents which our roads witness almost daily, he said. The writer said that the concerned authorities have a duty to impose very strict and deterrent penalties on reckless drivers so as to stem further tragedies and stop the carnage.

### WASHINGTON WATCH

## U.S. under pressure to end suffering of Iraqi people

By Dr. James Zogby

AS U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said last week, the U.S. administration adamantly refuses to lift the economic sanctions imposed against Iraq. The U.S. has taken this stand in the face of pressure from France, Russia, and other allies which have argued that the sanctions be eased in response to reports of widespread malnutrition and untreated diseases in all parts of the country.

While the U.S. administration holds firm in its sanctions policy, there is growing concern in Congress and among a number of U.S. non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that some action must be taken to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqi people. These organisations, including religious and human rights organisations, realise that the sanctions, which were meant to punish the Iraqi government, are instead doing much more to hurt the people of Iraq.

In none of the proposals offered by these groups is the suggestion that sanctions be lifted, for to do so would, in effect, reward the Iraqi regime.

So instead of calling for a lifting of the sanctions, these

U.S. groups are calling for alternative approaches to meet the needs of the Iraqi people without appearing to appease the Iraqi regime.

For example, the spokesman for the powerful U.S. Catholic Conference argued in a recent letter to the U.S. Department of State that: "We understand that the Iraqi government, while seeking to have the sanctions lifted, has resisted using the existing exemptions to relieve the suffering of its own people and that it is not in compliance with U.N. Security Council resolutions. Still, we believe action must be taken to relieve the suffering of Iraqi civilians resulting from the sanctions regime."

"In the face of the failure of the Iraqi government to serve the basic interests of its people, the international community has a continuing responsibility to find ways to prevent unnecessary deaths and unmerited suffering on the part of the Iraqi people."

"The responsibility of the international community and of the United States does not end with (Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's) refusal to use the existing exemption provisions. Means must be found in the short term for

Iraq and in the long term for humane provisions for the populations of other rogue states placed under U.N. sanctions."

A congressional resolution on emergency food and medical relief, which was offered two years ago, by Congressman Tim Penny of Minnesota, is being offered once again this year. The earlier Penny resolution called on the U.S. and other member nations of the U.N. to use some of the \$8 billion in frozen Iraqi assets to purchase food and medicine, and to distribute the supplies through U.N. agencies on the ground in Iraq.

Other powerful members of Congress, including members of the increasingly influential Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), are also searching for methods to get food and medicine to the people in Iraq who need it, while maintaining the sanctions regime.

A number of assumptions under the proposals being offered by advocates of relief for the Iraqi people.

First, as I have mentioned, since they believe that the Iraqi regime refuses to comply with U.N. Security Council resolutions, it should therefore not be rewarded with a

lifting of the sanctions. Both an Iraqi-American association and the Arab-American Medical Association have agreed in a report that having "watched the torment of their family and friends in Iraq they have no illusion that the Iraqi regime would use funds (derived from ending the sanctions) for humanitarian ends."

These groups, therefore, do not believe that ending the sanctions would have the immediate effect of helping all the people of Iraq, as much as it would benefit the government and allow it to pursue its own ends.

Notably, as the Iraqi regime refused to honour U.N. Security Council Resolution 688 that demands that the Iraqi government respect the human rights of its people, the regime has also refused to implement Resolutions 706 and 712 which exempt food and medicine from the sanctions and allows the government of Iraq to earn the foreign exchange needed for these items by selling oil.

What U.N. Security Council Resolutions 706 and 712 stipulate, however, is that the proceeds from these oil sales should be administered by the U.N. relief agencies to

ensure a fair and equitable distribution of food and medicine to all parts of the country and all groups in Iraqi society. This the Iraqi regime refuses to accept, and so the exemption provided by the resolutions goes unutilised.

The American groups calling for a new humanitarian policy towards the people of Iraq also feel that while it is clear that the Security Council has taken firm action to ensure that Iraq complies with its resolutions relating to the monitoring and dismantling of weapons of mass destruction, the U.N. has not been used to enforce the key provisions of Resolutions 688, 706 and 712. This lack of resolve on the part of the international community to provide the same guarantees for humanitarian needs as it does for security needs is what has provoked a response from U.S. religious and human rights organisations.

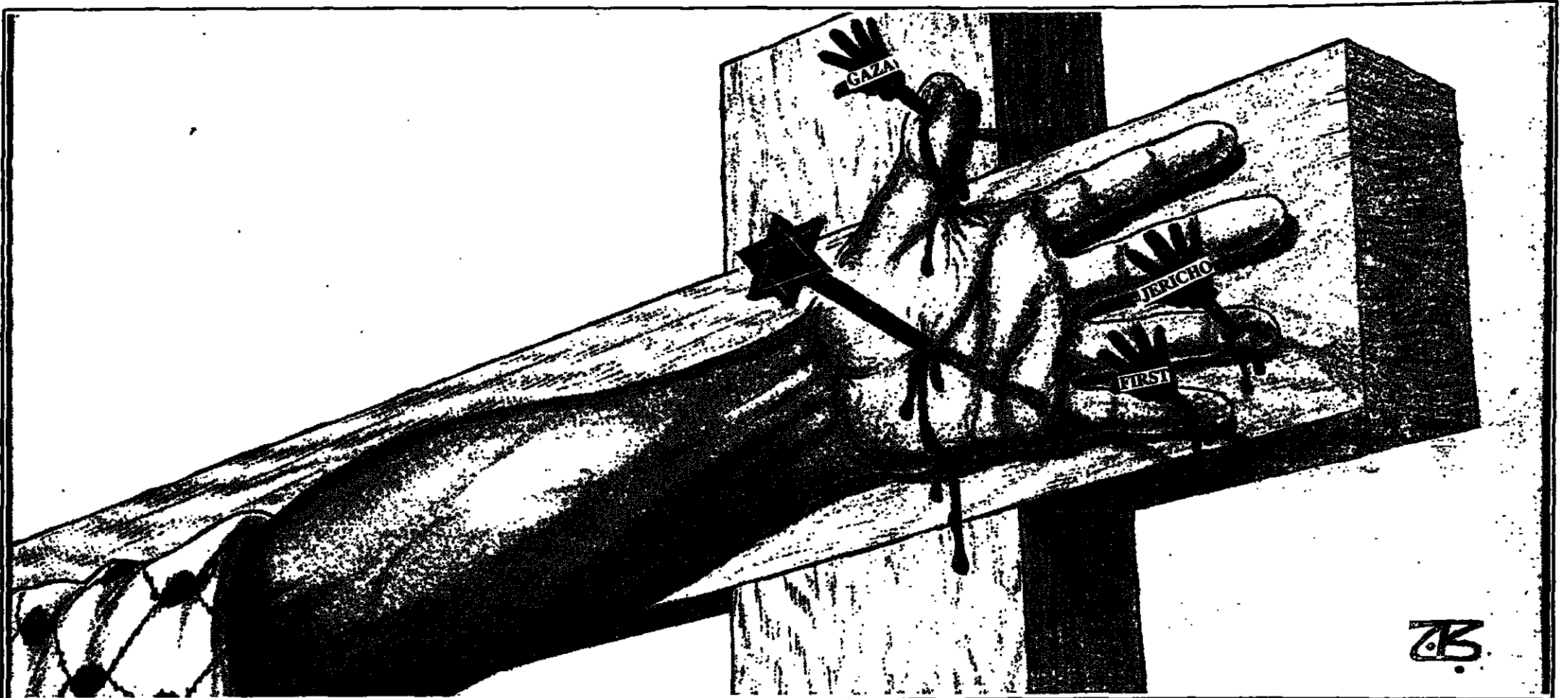
In fact, some of these U.S. groups are calling on the U.S. return to the Security Council and seek a new resolution that would force implementation of Resolutions 706 and 712. Just as the Security Council's actions essentially

forced Iraq to dismantle its weapons of mass destruction and nuclear programme, it is felt that the U.N. could similarly act to force Iraq to accept an on-the-ground humanitarian relief campaign to aid the Iraqi people.

If Iraq refuses this or interferes with U.N. efforts, it would be exposed for denying food and medicine to its own people. By imposing such a programme the U.N. would be able to get the needed help to the Iraqi people. The effort would be helpful to the Iraqi people in ways that the international community has not been helpful until now.

And so it is that in the face of reports of increased suffering of the Iraqi people some members of the U.S. Congress and NGOs, are searching for a way to maintain the sanctions while addressing the genuine needs of the Iraqi people. It is their stand that a people should not pay the price for the sins of the government, and that for far too long the world has turned a blind eye to the suffering of the Iraqi people.

The writer is president of the Washington-based Arab-American Institute.



## Speaking out against the insanity of Israeli settlements in Arab lands

By David Harris

SEVERAL YEARS ago, I sat in a Sunday school class as we discussed the holy land, a topic which was of particular interest to me at the time, since I had just recently returned to the United States from a six-month study programme in Jerusalem. At one point, one of the young men in attendance raised his hand to state his opinion that only crazy people would spend so much time and energy fighting over what he considered to be a worthless little patch of sand. He was merely trying to point out the absurdity of killing in order to gain control of religious sites when the very purpose of religion is to reconcile human beings with their fellowmen and with God. And his point was well made. What he didn't consider, however, was that for many people, both Palestinians and Israelis, this is the only place they have, and that if they didn't fight to keep it, they would be forever refugees at the mercy of foreign governments, some cruel, some kind, and some just plain indifferent.

Now, with the massacre at the Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron still fresh in our minds, it occurs to me that it's time to speak out against the insanity of illegal settlements like Kiryat Arba, which are nothing but enclaves of a new American colonialism that is slowly reaching out to engulf an entire nation. It is clear to me that no man or woman of sound mind would choose to raise his or her family in the hazardous conditions that exist in the West Bank and Gaza today if there were an alternative. There are Palestinians whose roots are there and who would have little or no opportunity to emigrate, even if they wanted

to. And there are Jews that come from the former Soviet Union and other countries with little knowledge of what awaits them there or what alternatives they might have to settling on occupied land that will eventually have to be vacated in order to comply with international law. These groups have my sympathy. Then there are American Jews who come, it seems, as if to summer camp, holding onto their American passports against a day when they may tire of the constant dangers facing a people who steal water and land and other vital resources from their neighbours, or a day when they simply grow weary of life on the dole, subsidised by

"Then there are American Jews who come (to the occupied territories), it seems, as if to summer camp, holding onto their American passports against a day when they may tire of the constant dangers facing a people who steal water and land and other vital resources from their neighbours."

Western governments and other generous philanthropists to ends that no rational human being can pretend to comprehend. These people have more freedom and more rights, more safety and more security in America than perhaps in any other country on the face of the globe. Yet they feel compelled to go and place themselves and their children at risk in a land where the dispossessed native inhabitants have a legitimate right to be taking up arms against them. But the worst of it is that they offer the Arabs yet one more reason to disdain America and our infuriating double standards. It is my firm belief that we must act now to sever ties

between the United States government and American passport holders living in illegal Israeli settlements. After all, how can we be considered a truly disinterested party in the peace process when our own citizens are among the obstacles to such a peace? I believe a grace period of one year should be extended to such individuals during which time they would be required to decide whether they desired to remain in the occupied territories or return to the United States. After the year was up, their passports would be revoked and transferred to eligible Palestinians who would otherwise have no alternative but to stay and

suffer under a military government that takes Palestinian lives on a daily basis. I don't wish to imply that every Palestinian would immigrate to the United States if the option were open to him or her, but it seems clear that some would jump at the chance to escape from an exhausting situation that shows few signs of ever improving. And why should they be any less eligible for this opportunity simply because they have never held an American passport?

In addition, we must immediately cut off any and all government aid earmarked for Israel until concrete steps have been taken to dismantle all the settlements and to

more justly distribute the available water in the region between all deserving parties. I see no reason why it should be in our interest to do anything less. Are we worried about losing an ally in the region? an ally who was nothing but a liability to us during the recent Gulf War? an ally who, as has been convincingly demonstrated, deliberately bombed the American destroyer Liberty in 1967? an ally who continues to stand in the way of good relations, economic and otherwise, with a vast portion of global markets?

The time has come for us to realise that the Israelis can stand up for themselves. Indeed, they are quickly becoming the most sought after trainers of drug cartels and other Third World organisations, instructing them in the art of guerrilla warfare and assassination. They have a healthy weapons industry that markets its products all over the world. In short, they are not the dismal wretches that Leon Uris and the like portray in their romantic tales of exiled Jews struggling against all odds. Anyone who has visited the occupied territories and seen the Israeli army in action can attest to this.

I have nothing against Israel. It is a country with interests and aspirations just like any other. But I feel it is high time we used the political clout that we as the only remaining superpower possess to stop the illegal occupation of the West Bank and Gaza and solve the problems dividing Israel and the Arab World once and for all. It is the right thing to do and it is very much in our interest to do it now.

The writer is an American student at the University of Jordan.

### LETTERS

## The spirit of sports

To the Editor:

THE REPULSIVE and distasteful attitude and behaviour of some members of the public at a soccer game last month makes it necessary to educate the public on the vital importance of self-control.

What causes the feelings of the public to run riot at a soccer game? In my opinion, it is the moment when one of the players by word or gesture starts contesting the decision, or to be more precise, the verdict, of the referee. It should be known to all concerned that a referee's decision or verdict is absolute, decisive and conclusive. Any player or a number of players pushing their luck should be disqualified from any future games for a full season.

It is suggested that an advisory committee of experts be formed to look into any violation committed by a referee in running a game. The administration of justice on the football ground is as vital as the administration of justice in a courtroom.

To accept defeat or victory on equal footing is the true spirit of sport.

George N. Saig,  
Amman.

## Prejudice on African football

To the Editor:

IT SEEMS both Mr. Larter and Mrs. Woodward are prejudice while indirectly attacking African football showing live on JTV. We black Africans in Jordan do appreciate the great effort of the sports staff at JTV and so do many Arab Egyptian soccer fans.

Ms. Larter feels JTV has abandoned American film or European film to transmit black African football. I wonder if she would criticise JTV if it broadcast European football live. In 1992, JTV covered all the European nations football cup in Sweden without anyone voicing dislike.

Once again I congratulate JTV for showing all the matches whether on Channel 1 or Channel 2; huray JTV. Finally, I would like Ms. Larter to know the importance of African football; notice that it's not only JTV but the entire world has broadcast African football, and I have proof for that.

Amin Gomdah,  
Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name upon request and under special circumstances, letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

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Iraq to dismantle its arsenal of mass destruction weapons, the U.N. could sanction an on-the-ground humanitarian relief campaign for the Iraqi people. Iraq refuses this or any other U.N. effort, and the world is exposed for food and medicine to the Iraqi people. By imposing a programme the U.N. is able to get the help to the Iraqi people. The effort would be to the Iraqi people that the international community has not been able to do until now. It is so it is that in the face of increased suffering the Iraqi people suffer the U.S. and NGOs are for a way to maintain sanctions while addressing genuine needs of the people. It is their duty people should not suffer for the sins of government, and that for the world has turned a blind eye to the suffering Iraqi people.

Writer is president of the Washington-based American Institute.



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Sports

Attitude and behavior in soccer game last night drew public on the streets to run riot at a soccer game when one of the players decided to throw a tantrum. It should be known that the soccer is about a number of players, and it is not a game of violence.

Committee of experts is committed to a reform of justice in the administration of justice in the country. The true goal of justice is the rule of law.

George N. S. Amman.

African

Wooden and are popular in football. Showing the importance of the game to do many Arab Egyptians.

tioned American football. I would like to see the importance of the game to do many Arab Egyptians.

showing all the modern TV. Finally, the importance of the game to do many Arab Egyptians.

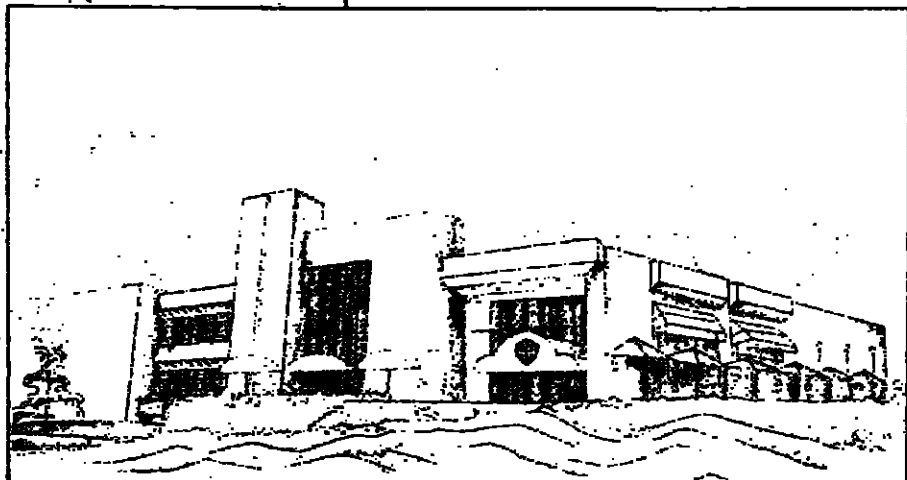
Amin G. Amman.

and contributions from the tackle. Letters must be accompanied by the writer's full name and address. Letters are not responsible for the content of the letters.

We Welcome You Starting From May 10th

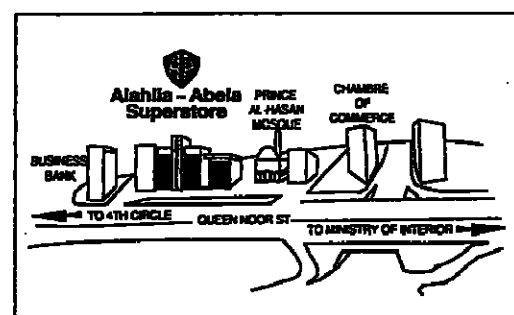


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## Jordan National Bank boosts profit by 70%

AMMAN (R) — Jordan National Bank reported Tuesday a 70 per cent rise in net profits to 4.44 million dinars (\$6.35 million) in 1993 from 2.60 million dinars (\$3.72 million) in 1992.

The bank approved dividends of 100 fils (14 cents) per share against 180 fils (25 cents) in 1992. It is paying 912,724 dinars (\$1.3 million) of profits to shareholders compared to 1.642 million dinars (\$2.349 million) in 1992.

The bank attributed its profit rise to increased lending at better margins. It said pre-tax profits rose to 6.47 million dinars (\$9.25 million) from 4.37 million dinars (\$6.26 million) in 1992.

It plans in 1994 to raise its capital to 16 million dinars (\$22.8 million) from 9.13 million dinars (\$13 million) by a private placement of 2,309,148 shares — 25 per cent of its capital — and the rest from reserves.

Twenty per cent of equity in the bank, one of the country's largest, is held outside Jordan, including Kuwait Investment Company.

The bank, which had operated three branches in the Israeli occupied territories, plans to reopen a branch in the West Bank town of Nablus in 1994.

## East Asia does not need Western help — Singapore's Lee

NICE, France (R) — East Asia's industrialised nations can fuel growth in China, Vietnam and other developing countries within the region without Western help if necessary, Singapore's senior minister Lee Kuan Yew said Tuesday.

Mr. Lee told a seminar ahead of the Asian Development Bank's annual meeting here that there were growing perceptions in East Asia that the United States and European Union (EU) wanted to contain the area's spectacular growth.

"The reality is that in East Asia... there is already enough knowledge, capital and expertise to help industrialise Vietnam, China and the rest of East Asia even if the U.S. or EU abstains from participation," Mr. Lee said.

East Asian growth — which will account for one-third of global gross domestic product by 2010 compared with just four per cent in 1960 — could not be thwarted, particularly in China, Mr. Lee said.

"Protectionism in either the U.S. or EU can slow down growth (in East Asia), but in the process they will hurt themselves and hurt the world," he said.

It would be wiser for the West to take part in East Asia's growth because this would boost its exports and allow its companies to participate in infrastructure projects estimated at one trillion dollars over the coming decade, Mr. Lee added.

## Vietnam exports beer to U.S.

HANOI (R) — U.S. drinkers will soon be able to quaff Vietnamese beer by calling for a can of Hue. The Hue brewery has just dispatched Vietnam's first container cargo of Hue beer to New York three months after the end of a 30-year U.S. trade embargo against Hanoi, a spokesman for the brewery said Tuesday.

The brewery in Hue, a former imperial capital in central Vietnam, signed an agreement with a British company for the sale to U.S. agents of eight containers of its beer — 192,000 bottles valued at \$48,000. The first container was delivered to shippers last week. "We had been waiting for the embargo to be lifted to carry out the deal," the spokesman said.

## Former Kuwait oil minister says billions of dinars wasted

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's former oil minister, reiterating charges by state auditors, said in remarks published Tuesday billions of dinars (dollars) in public funds had been squandered through bad oil sector investments in the 1980s.

"Billions of dinars that belong to this beleaguered people have been squandered by some of its own sons through bad investments," Ali Al-Baghlhi was quoted as saying by the English-language Arab Times and sister paper Al-Sayassah.

He said that when he took office in 1992 "I was shocked by the complete blackout on certain important investments and activities of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) which raised big controversies in this society."

Sheikh Baghlhi, a member of parliament, launched his attack on the past investment policy of the state oil conglomerate at a reception Sunday hosted by supporters in his constituency.

Sheikh Baghlhi was oil minister for 18 months before being replaced by historian and oil industry newcomer Abdul-Mohsen Al-Mudajir in an April 13 cabinet reshuffle. As minister Baghlhi automatically became chairman of KPC, a job now filled by Sheikh Al-Mudajir.

"Many of the oil companies are facing failure and their organisational structures are defective," Sheikh Baghlhi said.

"We have put our hands at the faulty spots and started the long road of reforms assisted by honest and dedicated youths in the oil sector which should be a source of pride for this state, but only after ridding it of such impurities," he pointed out.

Sheikh Baghlhi's comments coincided with the publication by newspapers of extracts from a state audit bureau report into KPC that said that former oil officials lost billions of dollars of public funds through misconduct or ineptitude.

Much of the criticism of KPC's performance has focused on a string of acquisitions in the 1980s that transformed the state oil con-

glomerate into an integrated world oil major.

The bureau said KPC losses on investments in the acquisitions amounted to 1.74 billion dinars (\$5.85 billion), aside from other losses from suspected misconduct.

Sheikh Baghlhi said that as minister he had had stormy sessions with KPC officials in meetings at which he demanded KPC firms broaden the selection of people who sat on their boards.

He said some long-serving officials, "people with humble capacities," had seats on the boards of as many as eight KPC firms at one time.

"It was they who admitted sanctioning those failed investments and managing it from that date until today, leading to disaster," he was quoted as saying.

The confrontation was not with these persons only," he said. "In addition, it was with influential persons backing them from outside (KPC)."

"They are a handful of influential people that have iron-fist control over the oil sector but from behind the scenes. What is unknown is still much greater than this, but these will be uncovered one day because truth will prevail," he stressed.

The bureau report was one of several ordered by the opposition-dominated parliament amid uproar over charges of graft and negligence linked to losses of \$3 billion from Kuwaiti investments in Spain and losses of millions of dollars by state-owned Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC) in the 1980s and the 1990-91 Gulf crisis.

An economic consultancy has said that Kuwait's new oil minister should follow his predecessor's example of allowing prosecutors to probe allegations of misconduct in the oil sector.

The private Al-Shall Consultancy made the recommendation in a favourable review of the 18-month tenure of Sheikh Baghlhi.

Al-Shall said in an economic commentary Sheikh Baghlhi had made fundamental and positive progress on several fronts, including creation of a

## Oman set to list Bahraini firms on exchange

ABU DHABI (R) — Oman and Bahrain are in the final stages of linking their stock markets and full integration is expected this year, an Omani official has said.

Mahmoud Jarwani, acting executive president of the Muscat Securities Market, said Oman has received applications from Bahraini firms to be listed in Muscat. The market's board of directors will review them in their next meeting.

"We got applications from Bahraini firms to be listed a few days ago. It is under consideration now," he told Reuters by telephone from Oman. He said the applications were from two Bahraini finance houses but did not name them.

The two countries signed an agreement in 1992 to cross-list securities before the year's end. "I hope by the end of the year Bahrain and Oman will link markets fully," he said.

"We have completed the technical affairs related to selling, a central depository and disclosure requirements. We are at the final stage," he added.

Oman's stock market lists 93 companies capitalised at 623.2 million riyals (\$1.6 billion). Mr. Jarwani said 34.5 million shares were traded in 1993 worth 83.2 million riyals (\$216 million). Annual turnover is about \$60 million.

The six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) also includes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. They plan to eventually link their stock markets as part of a long-term target to form a common market.

GCC citizens can own up to 25 per cent of the share capital of public joint stock companies in Oman but with some exceptions they can own up to 49 per cent.

## Financial Markets

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Currency	New York Close Date 2/5/94	Singapore Close Date 3/5/94
Sterling Pound*	1.5155	1.5125**
Deutsche Mark	1.6474	1.6494
Swiss Franc	1.4820	1.4862
French Franc	5.6410	5.6513**
Japanese Yen	101.64	101.72
European Currency Unit	1.1703	1.1695**

\* USD Per STD  
\*\* European Option of 800 S.M. GMT

## Interbank Interest Rates

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.7500	4.1300	4.5000	5.1300
Sterling Pound	4.8100	4.9400	5.1300	5.5600
Deutsche Mark	5.1900	5.1300	5.0600	5.0600
Swiss Franc	3.7500	3.7500	3.7500	3.7500
French Franc	5.6900	5.5600	5.5600	5.5600
Japanese Yen	2.0000	2.0000	2.1300	2.3800
European Currency Unit	5.8700	5.8100	5.7500	5.7500

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

## Precious Metals

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	376.25	7.50	Silver	5.31	0.120

\* 21 Karat

## Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6970	0.6990
Sterling Pound	1.0539	1.0592
Deutsche Mark	0.4222	0.4243
Swiss Franc	0.4962	0.4987
French Franc	0.1234	0.1240
Japanese Yen*	0.6846	0.6882
Dutch Guilder	0.3761	0.3780
Swedish Krona	0.0439	0.0441
Italian Lira*	0.0439	0.0441
Belgian Franc	0.0439	0.0441

\* Per 100

## Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8330	1.9010
Lebanese Lira*	0.038050	0.041500
Saudi Riyal	0.1855	0.1880
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3290	2.3670
Qatari Riyal	0.1892	0.1901
Egyptian Pound	0.1950	0.2100
Omani Rial	1.7910	1.8060
UAE Dirham	0.1892	0.1901
Greek Drachma*	0.2775	0.3025
Cypriot Pound	1.3080	1.3900

\* Per 100

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.3806/16	Canadian dollar
	1.6476/86	Deutsche marks
	1.8502/12	Dutch guilders
	1.4032/42	Swiss francs
	33.91/95	Belgian francs
	5.6440/90	French francs
	1585.2/6.7	Italian lire
	101.28/38	Japanese yen
	7.6300/00	Swedish crowns
	7.1480/30	Norwegian crowns
	6.4580/30	Danish crowns
	\$1.5092/02	
One sterling	\$375.70/376.20	
One ounce of gold		

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## Akashi discusses total Bosnia truce

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — A U.N. mediator began efforts Tuesday to reach a total ceasefire between Muslims and Serbs and head off an impending battle for control of a strategic Serb corridor across northern Bosnia.

U.N. special envoy Yasushi Akashi was meeting Bosnia's Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic in Sarajevo and later, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic in nearby Pale.

"The main topic of his discussions will be total ceasefire within Bosnia-Herzegovina", U.N. Protection Force spokesman Eric Chaperon told reporters in Sarajevo.

U.N. sources told Reuters earlier Mr. Akashi would ask the Muslims and Serbs for permission to urgently deploy U.N. observers in the area around Brcko in northern Bosnia where Serbs hold a corridor joining their territories.

Mr. Akashi is racing against time as fears grow that northern Bosnia could become the next flashpoint in the former Yugoslav republic's war following reports of a massive weapons buildup in the area.

The Bosnian Serb-held river valley town of Brcko, mainly Muslim before the war, is in the bottleneck of a northern route that links Serb lands in Bosnia and Croatia to Serbia proper.

The 70 per cent of Bosnian territory Serbs now control resembles a horseshoe and at one point near Brcko it is only five kilometres wide. Muslim

forces are to the south and Croatia lies to the north.

Bosnian government forces commander General Rasim Delic, who visited the area Monday together with Mr. Izetbegovic, said: "Brcko is the key to the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina."

"For our part we shall do everything to see that preparations for the final showdown with the Chetniks (Serb forces) proceed in the best possible way," he said.

French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, calling Brcko and its environs a "flashpoint", urged the United Nations to give it the same protective shield as six embattled Muslim-held parts of Bosnia that the world body has declared "safe areas."

Mr. Karadzic rejected the idea: "We would not accept any type of change in the status of Brcko, because Brcko and the corridor is of vital interest for the Serbian nations."

General Sir Michael Rose, commander of U.N. troops in Bosnia, said he would need more troops if the United Nations were to extend its security guarantee to Brcko.

He told a news conference during a meeting of Nordic defence ministers in Denmark: "We already have inadequate resources to sustain the operations we have at the moment. If we took on more safe areas then of course one would expect to have more resources allocated."

A U.N. official in Zagreb

who did not wish to be identified said the world organisation was trying to rush in observers.

"We have signs that all three sides are consolidating troops in the area. We are obviously concerned, and we want U.N. military observers to be deployed there in the next couple of days," he told Reuters.

Sarajevo Radio accused the Serbs of mounting the biggest military build-up since the beginning of the war and said on Tuesday army convoys kept pouring into the area.

The Bosnian Serb Army (BSA), in turn, claims the Muslims have amassed up to 80,000 soldiers in the area.

The BSA command Tuesday reported an overnight Muslim mortar attack eight kilometres southwest of Brcko to which the Serbs did not respond.

Maj. Chaperon in Sarajevo said Mr. Akashi would also raise with the Serbs the question of Serb "militia" remaining within the three kilometres exclusion zone round Gorazde, as well as Serb violations of the exclusion zone around Sarajevo.

Maj. Chaperon said French troops encountered a Serb tank being moved near the Serb barracks at Lukavica outside Sarajevo Monday in a violation of the Sarajevo exclusion zone.

A NATO ultimatum threatening air strikes helped end a Serb siege around Gorazde last weekend. The Serbs were

ordered to withdraw their infantry from a three kilometre zone around Gorazde and pull their heavy weapons back 20 kilometres.

Another topic would be the convoy of 168 British troops now being prevented from moving by the Serbs at Rogatica, he said.

The British want to go to Gorazde to beef up some 500 U.N. peacekeepers already there, but are now being held at Rogatica. Maj. Chaperon declined to describe them as hostages.

Mr. Akashi said Gorazde was a "precondition, a test case" for U.N. credibility in resolving the Bosnian conflict in talks Tuesday with Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic.

The representative of U.N. chief Boutros Ghali said he would present the U.N. view on obtaining a "complete stabilisation" of the situation in Gorazde when he spoke to Serb officials in Pale.

Mr. Akashi responded defensively to questions concerning a telegram sent to him by Dr. Ghali indicating that high-ranking U.N. officials were making statements critical of United States policy, and that the comments were "unacceptable."

He repeated the official position that U.N. representatives "should refrain from commenting on the policies of member governments." He said he had not considered resigning following Dr. Ghali's implicit rebuke.

## Thousands are in hiding throughout Rwanda as fighting continues

NAIROBI, Kenya (Agencies) — Relief agencies worked to reach thousands of hungry, terrified people hiding throughout Rwanda Tuesday as ethnic fighting continued for the 27th day.

Several international efforts were under way to try to negotiate an end to the blood-bath that has killed more than 100,000, and to get aid to an estimated 1.3 million displaced in the tiny central African nation.

Small arms fire was heard Tuesday morning in the capital, Kigali, where civilian gangs and militias still control much of downtown, said U.N. spokesman Abdul Kabia.

He said there are reports that massacres may have diminished in the city, but slaughter and banditry continue in the countryside, particularly in southern areas controlled by the army and militias.

Mr. Kabia said military observers hoped later in the day to evacuate some 300 people sheltering under U.N. protection in Kigali's Milles Colines Hotel.

The United Nations had stationed armoured personnel carriers outside the hotel more than a week ago following reports that the displaced would be massacred. It had been asking the government for

several days to let the people leave.

"We got an agreement yesterday that the people can go to the area of their choice," Mr. Kabia said by phone from Kigali. "I think they want to go home."

U.N. officials estimate that some 20,000 people are sheltering in unguarded churches throughout Kigali as well as in the known U.N. safe havens of the stadium, King Faisal Hospital and two hotels.

Many more are still locked in their homes in the capital, while an estimated 250,000 of the city's 350,000 population have fled, said Emery Brusset, spokesman for the U.N.'s Emergency Humanitarian Effort in Rwanda.

Rwandan rebels and government representatives gathered Tuesday in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha, where the United Nations and Tanzania are trying to broker peace talks, diplomats said.

U.N. envoy to Rwanda Jacques-Roger Booh-Booh met separately with both sides to persuade the rebels to open face-to-face talks with the interim government which they do not recognise.

The rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front has ruled out a dialogue with the "government of killers" and said its representa-

tives would go to Arusha only to brief Tanzanian officials on their position in the Rwandan conflict.

Organisation of African Unity Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim and Tanzanian Prime Minister John Malecela, who is to chair the talks, were expected in Arusha later Tuesday, according to diplomats contacted by telephone.

Ten days ago Tanzania failed to bring the two sides to the negotiating table for an earlier round of talks, also in Arusha where the rebel and government signed peace accords last August to end a three-year civil war.

The government delegation failed to turn up, and the rebels said that they would refuse to talk to them even if they did.

But the rebels have agreed to meet military officers to discuss ways to halting the carnage in Rwanda, which has cost more than 100,000 lives since the death of President Juvenal Habyarimana in an April 6 rocket attack on his plane rekindled the war and plunged then tiny Central African country into chaos.

The U.N.'s refugee agency warned Tuesday of a looming health "catastrophe" at a makeshift camp in Tanzania packed with 250,000 hungry Rwandan refugees.

## Seoul slams North's armistice pullout

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's newly-appointed unification minister Tuesday slammed as "irresponsible" Communist North Korea's abrupt moves to annul the armistice pact which halted the 1950-53 Korean War.

"It is irresponsible behaviour which stifles the current armistice pact," said Lee Hong-Koo, who was appointed last Saturday.

The North last week told United Nations forces stationed in South Korea it would unilaterally pull out of the Military Armistice Commission (MAC), which works to maintain peace along the tense 250 kilometre border between the two Koreas.

The North has boycotted MAC meetings since a South Korean general was appointed head of the five-person UNC delegation in March 1991, replacing an American.

North Korea, which has defied the United Nations by refusing to allow full inspection of its nuclear facilities by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) officials, last week proposed negotiations with the United States to replace the armistice with a peace agreement.

Mr. Lee said the North must first clear up allegations that it was covertly developing nuclear weapons before taking up the issue of a peace treaty.

"The North must promptly normalise operations of the MAC and cease activities which disrupt peace on the peninsula," he told reporters.

South Korean analysts described the North's withdrawal from the commission as highly political. They said its aim was to divert world attention from a bitter controversy over the North's suspected nuclear programme and seek the upper hand in negotiations with the United States.

"We will soon provide steps to tackle the problem in consultation with the United States," a Foreign Ministry official said.

Foreign Minister Han Sang-Joo told reporters Tuesday the issue of signing a peace treaty was a matter for Seoul and Pyongyang as agreed between the two sides in late 1991.

"The United States is a signatory to the armistice and therefore will get involved in that sense," Mr. Han said.

"But the United States fully agrees with Seoul that the matter is for the two Koreas to

resolve," he said.

The two Koreas signed a non-aggression pact in December 1991 which requires the two sides to take a series of tension-reducing steps, but none of them has been implemented because of the row over the North's nuclear programme.

"The North has been trying to drive a wedge between the South and the United States by excluding the South from negotiations on the North's nuclear problem and other issues," said an analyst at the Unification Ministry.

"The primary goal of the Northern regime is to force the withdrawal of U.S. forces in the South by agreeing with the United States to replace the armistice with a peace treaty," he said.

Washington maintains a force of 36,000 men in the south, a legacy of the Korean War, when a U.S.-led United Nations alliance fought off a Northern invasion.

Military commanders from North Korea, the United States and China, which aided the North during the Korean War, were signatories to a military truce that was never converted into a peace treaty.

## 'House of horror' wife charged with 4th murder

GLOUCESTER, England (R) — The wife of accused serial killer Frederick West was charged Tuesday with a fourth murder in Britain's grisly House Of Horror case.

Rosemary West, 40, was remanded in police custody when she appeared briefly in a Gloucester court to be formally charged with the joint murder with her husband of Swiss student Therese Slegenthaler, who disappeared in 1974 aged 21.

Last week, the mother-of-eight was charged, jointly with Mr. West, of murdering three girls in 1973. Mr. West, a 52-year-old builder, has been charged with 10 murders, including his first wife Catherine and his 16-year-old daughter Heather.

Mrs. West is also accused of taking part — with two men — in the rape of a teenage girl and with assaulting a seven-year-old boy.

Nine of Mr. West's victims were exhumed from the West family home at 25 Cromwell Street — dubbed the House Of Horror by Britain's media — since police began their gruesome investigation at the end of February.



**SUICIDE DOCTOR FREE:** Dr. Jack Kevorkian (centre) makes his way through the media to his attorneys' car after the jury gave him his victory in Detroit's Recorder's Court Monday. Kevorkian was found innocent of assisting in the suicide of Thomas Hyde last summer. Mr. Hyde suffered from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a fatal illness. If convicted, Dr.

Kevorkian could have faced four years in jail and a \$2,000 fine. The 12-member jury, consisting of nine women and three men, deliberated for about 10 hours over a three-day period. Dr. Kevorkian has attended 26 suicides since 1990 in his right-to-die crusade. Three previous cases against Dr. Kevorkian have been thrown out of Michigan courts on constitutional grounds.

## Storm kills at least 100 in Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — A severe storm tearing through south-eastern Bangladesh with driving rain and winds of up to 200 kilometres per hour killed more than 100 people, injured about 500 and left at least 150,000 homeless, officials said Tuesday.

They said the toll could rise when officials and rescue teams, scouring scenes of devastation after Monday night's storm, reported in.

"The magnitude of the disaster is being assessed, and I fear it would be high," said an official at Cox's Bazar.

He said the majority of the dead and hundreds injured were Burmese Rohingya refugees living in camps near Cox's Bazar and Teknaf, both in the direct path of the vicious storm.

"We have just received the first reports and the toll will definitely rise when the details are available," said Enamul Kabir, deputy commissioner of

Cox's Bazar before he left for Teknaf.

Bangladesh's worst storm in April 1991 killed over 138,000 people along the coast and on about a dozen islands in the Bay of Bengal. It caused property and crop losses of \$3 billion.

Mr. Kabir said Monday's storm destroyed 90 per cent of the houses in Teknaf and on Saint Martin's Island on the bay. "Details are still awaited," he told reporters.

The Kutubdia and Maheshkhali islands, which suffered the brunt of the 1991 cyclone, were badly hit again, Cox's Bazar officials said without giving details.

The latest storm, spawned in the bay, slammed through Cox's Bazar and neighbouring areas at 175 kilometres per hour, local meteorology officials said.

But it spared the densely-populated Chittagong Port about 150 kilometres away.

The Bangladesh Navy was sending a vessel with medical and relief supplies to St. Martin's Island, a navy spokesman said.

Relief officials said emergency food and medical supplies were being distributed in the badly-hit areas.

Disaster control officials said many areas along the coast were inundated by a sea surge, about six metres high, triggered by the strong winds.

Officials and cyclone preparedness volunteers Monday moved about 400,000 people to safety while thousands more moved out of the area voluntarily.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, called in the army, navy and air force to support relief operations and sent out ministers to coordinate efforts.

"We must pull out all stops to save lives and property," she told a cabinet meeting Monday.

## U.S. shows interest in military option on Haiti

WASHINGTON (AP) — With pressure mounting on the Clinton administration to bring an end to the Haiti crisis, U.S. officials are signalling increased interest in the possibility of military action to restore democracy there.

The administration has shied away from military force because of potential U.S. casualties and for an involvement to which no end could be foreseen. With no obvious U.S. strategic interest at stake, support for the military option has been limited.

Publicly, the administration stuck Monday to its longstanding position of refusing to rule out use of military force in Haiti.

"I will say only that we don't find it useful to rule out any option," said White House press secretary Dee Dee Myers.

"The administration has neither ruled in nor out this particular option," deputy State Department spokeswoman Christine Shelly said.

Congressional backing for the use of force has been increasing. At a closed hearing last week Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott and Deputy National Adviser Sandy Berger testified on the point before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives.

One source familiar with the proceedings said it was apparent that support for consideration of the use of force extends on Capitol Hill beyond a few members of the black Caucus in Congress.

It is not clear, however, whether the signs of increased administration attention to the military option mark a turning point or whether they are

merely intended to scare Haiti's generals into surrendering power. Two published reports in recent days said use of force is being considered.

Ms. Shelly said the administration, for now, is hopeful that pressure will be sufficient to oust the military and a restored President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The focus this week is on the United Nations, where the administration is pushing for tightened international sanctions against Haiti.

Under the proposal, top military and police officials in Haiti would have 15 days to quit or leave before a total economic embargo took effect.

The administration has doubted whether an embargo would be sufficient. There is a widespread perception that embargoes hurt common people.

## Belgium has freest press — survey

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Belgium enjoys the world's freest press, followed by New Zealand, Australia and Norway, according to a survey released Tuesday by the human rights group Freedom House.

Tied for fifth place were Denmark, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland in the survey that looked for "vibrancy, diversity and lack of government encumbrance" of the press.

The United States followed, in a tie with Luxembourg. The survey titled Press Freedom Worldwide: 1994, gauges the extent to which newspapers, radio and television permit a free flow of ideas to and from the public in 186 countries.

It said the United States lost points because of the increasing dominance of major media groups and said that "skyrocketing costs of publishing and broadcasting" tend to make U.S. editorial content more vulnerable to the influence of ratings and advertising.

Freedom House said the least free press was in Iraq. Others in the bottom echelon were Cuba, Tajikistan, North Korea, Burma, Turkmenistan, Sudan and China.

Of the 186 countries listed, two — Afghanistan and Somalia — were deemed impossible to monitor "because central government has broken down, repression is complete and data are unreliable."

Leonard Sussman, a Freedom House scholar in international communications who was the study coordinator, said: "Although the press in the freest countries is the watchdog over government,

many governments, even in some democracies, are seeking to be watchdogs over the news media."

The study said press freedom peaked worldwide with post-Communist liberalisations in 1989 but has declined since.

The survey covered Jan. 1, 1993 to April 15 of this year and was released on the United Nations' International Press Freedom Day.

Overall, 66 countries, or about 37 per cent, were judged to fall in the broad category of having "free" media, meaning journalists are "nearly free" of political pressure and other interference.

The press was called "partly free" in 64 countries, or 34 per cent, while 54 countries, 29 per cent, were said to have a press that is "not free," indicating a high degree of government control, including frequent physical threats against journalists.

Freedom House said 76 journalists were killed in 27 countries in the period covered by the study.

Freedom House is a New York-based, non-partisan human-rights organisation that monitors political rights and civil liberties around the world. It was funded with a grant from Freedom Forum, a foundation based in Arlington, Virginia, that promotes free press and free speech.

**UNESCO marks Press Day**

Pictures taken by Associated Press and Reuters photographers slain while working in Somalia went on display at UNESCO headquarters to

mark World Press Freedom Day.

The exhibit, which is travelling around the world, is part of the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO) effort to celebrate the day worldwide Tuesday.

The display commemorates AP photographer Hansi Krauss. Reuters photographers Dan Eldon and Hos Maima, and Reuters television sound technician Anthony Macharia.

They were attacked and killed by an angry crowd last year as they tried to cover the aftermath of a United Nations helicopter assault in the Somali capital, Mogadishu.

UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor inaugurated the exhibit Monday. Called "Images Of Conflict" it displays 20 prints from each of the three photographers and sound recorded by Macharia.

"Journalism has become an increasingly dangerous profession, yet this has not deterred brave men and women from doing their part in the search for truth, the sharing of information, and the building of democracy," Mr. Mayor said.

Elsewhere, UNESCO is also helping unveil a memorial for journalists killed during the Yugoslav civil war, organising a conference on truth in media in Moscow, and holding workshops in Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Western Samoa.

Mr. Mayor said that 75 journalists from the print and broadcast media were killed in 1993. 50 of them while covering armed conflict and some by extremist groups.

World Press Freedom Day was declared by the United

Nations General Assembly in 1993 based on a UNESCO resolution stating that an independent, pluralistic and free press is essential for democracy.

Meanwhile the French group Reporters Sans Frontières (RSF) said Tuesday, at least 63 journalists were killed in the line of duty in 1993, and some 124 were detained by authorities for expressing their opinions.

At least 30 other journalists were killed last year but it could not be determined whether they were on assignment at the time of their deaths, it said in a 506-page annual report.

The French newsletter Correspondance De La Presse said the 1993 figures compared with 61 journalists killed in 1992 and 123 detained.

RSF said the death comprised nine in Algeria, eight in Bosnia and Russia, four in Colombia, Georgia and Somalia, three in Angola, Mexico, Tajikistan and Turkey, two in India and one in South Africa, Azerbaijan, Britain, Congo, Guatemala, Italy, Lebanon, Lithuania, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda and Venezuela.

RSF said in a separate statement that the deaths of two Americans in Bosnia Sunday brought to 17 the number of journalists killed this year.

The 1994 figures comprise six killed in Algeria, five in Bosnia, two in South Africa and Somalia, and one in Egypt and Iraq.

Among the at least 124 journalists detained on Jan. 1 were 21 in China, 15 in Turkey, 10 in Syria, nine in Iraq and Vietnam, eight in Kuwait.

## Assault charge against actor dismissed

LOS ANGELES (R) — A judge has dismissed misdemeanor vandalism and assault charges against actor Jack Nicholson, who had been accused of smashing a motorist's windshield with a golf club.

Over the objections of prosecutors, Municipal Court Judge Martin Suitts ruled during a court hearing that the victim's complaint had been satisfied by a civil settlement reached with Nicholson in March and that a criminal case was not warranted.

Robert Blank, 38, alleged that while he was stopped at a traffic light, Nicholson got out of his car carrying a golf club and accused him of cutting him off. The Academy Award-winning actor, best known for playing volatile characters in such films as One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest and The Shining, then battered the roof of Blank's car with a golf club and smashed his windshield, Mr. Blank said.

Blank said.

Blank said.

## Drug hijacker thwarted when car breaks down

BANGKOK (AFP) — A Macao man armed with an AK-47 assault rifle hijacked a Bangkok taxi for a drug delivery, but was caught when the vehicle broke down, police said Tuesday. Lai Seng Po, 28, flagged the cab down in the Lad Prao district of Bangkok Monday, then panicked when the driver asked where to go. Police said he produced the rifle, shoved the driver over to the passenger seat, shooting him in the leg in the process.

Lai later explained that he intended to drive to Pattaya, a beach resort area 150 kilometres southeast of Bangkok, to deliver heroin. But the taxi broke down after a few kilometres. Lai fled on foot, firing two shots at pursuing police. But he was eventually overpowered. Police said 1.5 kilograms (three pounds) of heroin was found in his jacket. Press reports said Lai had been living in Thailand illegally.

## U.K. firms lose women managers

LONDON (R) — The number of women managers in top British companies has fallen for the first time in 20 years, according to an Institute of Management survey Tuesday. The percentage of women managers had grown steadily from just 1.8 per cent in 1974 to 10.2 per cent in 1993. But the figure has dropped back to 9.5 per cent so far this year. The survey, covering more than 330 British firms, said the number of women section leaders and department heads had fallen and the number of women directors had stayed constant at 1993 levels of 2.8 per cent after a steady increase since 1974. The institute described the survey results as a "shock". Director General Roger Young said: "For years we have been delighted to record women's increasing progress at all levels of management but now they have suffered a setback." He said the reasons were unclear, but suggested some women could be reacting against the non-family-friendly policies of some large companies and opting to set up their own firms. The survey also found that women continue to be paid less than male bosses or directors. The average female manager earns \$27,862 (\$42,180), almost \$5,000 (\$7,570) less than her male counterpart, while a woman director's average salary is \$56,000 (\$84,780), almost \$20,000 (\$30,280) less than a male director.

## Macao man's organ reattached, wife gone

HONG KONG (R) — The severed penis of a 43-year old man in Macao was successfully reattached in a four-hour operation, the Portuguese News Agency (LUSA) said Tuesday. Hospital sources said "about two-thirds" of Wong Cheong-Do's penis had been cut off before he entered the operating theatre Monday morning, the agency reported. It said the penis was carried to the hospital in a plastic bag by relatives of Mr. Wong, who also suffered wounds to his scrotum and abdomen. The agency said the circumstances surrounding the incident were unclear. It quoted neighbourhood sources as saying the man's wife had "abandoned" him, adding that the couple had shared their flat with two female subtenants. They said Mr. Wong and his wife were construction workers whose scenes were quoted as saying "noisy" and "quite well".



## 2nd round of U-22 basketball championship starts today

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Al Ahli, Al Jazireh, Al Abbasi and Al Jalil Wednesday begin their quest for the first of the season's basketball titles when they play their opening matches in the second round of the under U-22 competition.

The four teams made it to the final round after topping the standings in the first round where participating teams had been divided into two groups: Group 1 included Al Ahli, Al Abbasi, Yarmouk, Homentmen and Abu Nusair, while the second group included Al Jazireh, Al Jalil, Gazzet Hashem and Al Watani.

The second round of the competition is expected to be very competitive and interesting. However, basketball fans seem to be missing out on the action so far with only a handful of club officials and fans following the matches.

The top four teams have demonstrated a promising standard that shows an emphasis on preparing a younger lineup of players that would both represent their clubs in different age groups in addition to playing alongside their senior teams in their respective divisions.

Al Ahli and Al Jazireh are expected to be the top contenders for the title. However, a difficult task lies ahead as they face two aspiring teams — Al Abbasi and Al Jalil.

Both Al Ahli and Al Jazireh were the only unbeaten teams in the first round, although Al Hali scored more impressive and convincing victories thanks to well experienced players, including Mohammad and Taimour Shamali, Ramez Hammoudeh, Wisam Nino, Zeid Alkhas, Faisal Ensour and Riyad Ayyesh, in addition to an abundant number of substitutes.

Al Ahli beat Al Yarmouk 125-71; Abu Nusair 160-43; Homentmen 140-55 and Abbasi 98-65.

Al Jazireh had a more difficult path. They overcame Al Watani 91-62; Al Jalil 84-75 and Gazzet Hashem 116-36.

Al Jazireh last year won the boys U-14 titles and finished second in the U-19 competition.

Their ambitious team is led by Ghaith Ennabi, Anwar Haddad, and new recruit Nasser Alawneh who moved from Al JD 5000.

However, Al Abbasi are undoubtedly the surprise of the competition. They proved that

their team means business when they became the first team to qualify to the second round of the tournament.

Al Abbasi, formerly a lowly second division club, lost only to Al Ahli. They defeated Al Yarmouk 77-47 (46-26), Homentmen 71-43 (29-18) and Abu Nusair 98-24 (52-10).

Al Abbasi's young team, led by Ashraf Samara, Tareq Najjar and Iyad Zalaito, has been playing with greater confidence since they beat Al Orthodoksi to clinch in the U-19 competition back in January.

Al Jalil have also demonstrated that they are a team to be reckoned with despite withdrawing against Al Jazireh in the final minutes of their first round match. Al Jazireh had barely won the first half 43-41 and were leading 84-75 when the match was suspended.

Al Jalil had defeated Al Watani 75-51 and Gazzet Hashem 84-37.

Abu Nusair, the only winless team of the competition, finished 9th.

The round deciding 5-8th places seemed to be inconclusive, as Gazzet Hashem opted not to play Al Yarmouk for 5th and 6th places since their team had a simultaneous match in a tournament for teams in the north of the Kingdom.

The other match grouping Al Watani and Homentmen for seventh and eighth places was discontinued when Homentmen opted to halt the match and lodged a complaint with the JBF's referees committee citing "substandard refereeing."

Homentmen had finished fourth in group 1 after a 56-44 (31-21) win over Abu Nusair. Al Watani had finished last group 2 with two losses and a withdrawal against Gazzet Hashem.

The Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) had opted to commence the 1994 season with the U-22 tournament — the first of the season's 12 competitions — because it was cancelled in 1993.

However, many players this year also missed the competition since the JBF's regulations stipulate that only those born after 1973 can take part. Hence many players born in 1972 and who are still just under 22 could not compete for the second consecutive year.

Most teams were undoubtedly affected by this technicality. Titleholders Al Orthodoksi, who won the last U-22 championship in 1992, opted not to participate this year. Similarly Al Ashrafieh.

Al Hussein, Al Karak, Al Wifaq, Anjarah, Al Mafrag and Al Husun clubs did not play this season.

According to the JBF's 1994 regulations, first division teams are required to compete in at least two age groups, while second division teams in only one age group.

This year the first division includes only seven teams: Al Ahli, Al Orthodoksi, Jazireh, Jalil, Watani, Hussein, and Homentmen. Two teams will be relegated in 1994 and only one team will be promoted from the second division making the total number of competing teams only six in 1995 compared to eight until 1993.

JBF reschedules 1994 competitions

In an unprecedented procedure, the JBF board met with representatives of first, second and third division clubs to ascertain their complaints and apprehensions regarding the schedule of upcoming competitions and agree upon the most appropriate dates, taking into consideration school and university exams and a host of other related issues that hinder competitions and cause numerous postponements throughout the season.

JBF secretary Ghaleb Balawi stressed that only clubs whose representatives were present would be allowed to compete in age-group competitions, and that any club not attending the meeting would not be allowed to complain to the timing of scheduled competitions.

The unavailability of a court of the JBF's use proved to be a big obstacle to the rescheduling of competitions as most matches are played at the Sports Palace which is usually over-booked by other federations.

As the U-22 is now underway, the next event will be the U-16 tournament, which will be followed by the third division, women's and U-18 competitions.

The second division and U-14 competitions will be held simultaneously. While the season will end with the first division championship which will begin Nov. 3 following the national team's return from the Asian Games in Hiroshima.

The JBF will also supervise Al Jazireh's international women's basketball tournament July 22-29, and organise a tournament on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday, and the Jordan Cup in December.



Ayrton Senna

## Autopsy performed on Senna

BOLOGNA, Italy (AP) —

Doctors performed an autopsy Tuesday on the body of Ayrton Senna, as the investigation continued into the crash that killed the three-time Formula One champion.

Senna, 34, was travelling at about 290 kph on the seventh lap of Sunday's San Marino Grand Prix when his Williams lost traction and became a 545-kilo missile. It slammed head-on into a concrete wall and Senna died from multiple head injuries.

It was the second death in as many days on the Imola Track. During Saturday's qualifying, Austrian rookie driver Roland Ratzenberger was killed when his car also hit a concrete barrier.

Meanwhile, the so-called "black box" computerised data-logging systems from Senna's Williams Renault and Ratzenberger's Simtek Ford were being examined by their respective teams in Britain. Their findings will be reported to the sport's governing body, the International Auto Racing Federation (FIA), which has scheduled a top-level meeting in Paris Wednesday.

"We are at this moment studying all data available to us to ascertain the cause of the accident," said Williams team owner Frank Williams.

A FIA safety commission will also investigate the Imola Track, although a FIA spokesman reiterated that the course had passed a safety inspection last week.

The Tamburello turn on which Senna lost his life was not the first such accident at that turn — indeed, not even the first involving a Williams driven by a 34-year-old Formula One champion from Brazil. In qualifying for the 1987 San Marino Race, Nelson Piquet escaped with a concussion and an injured left foot when his car went out of control and lost a wheel as it struck the wall. He missed the race, but was able to continue his career, winning a third Formula One title that season.

Two years later, Tamburello almost claimed the life of another illustrious driver, Austria's Gerhard Berger, driving for the famed Italian team Ferrari, went head-first into the wall and the red car then burst into flames. His fireproof driver's suit saved his life, as did rescue workers who got to him in a scant 23 seconds.

Incredibly, Berger never lost consciousness despite suffering a fractured rib, a fractured left shoulder and burns on his left hand.

## 46 competitors to participate in 13th Jordan International Rally

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The countdown for the much awaited 13th Jordan International Rally has already begun, and organisers — the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ) — have announced that 46 competitors representing 13 countries would be taking part.

At a press conference held at rally headquarters — the Forte Grand Hotel — Tuesday, RACJ officials expressed delight that the May 12-13 event has again brought together the Kingdom's top drivers in addition to foreign competitors from Qatar, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Ireland, Kuwait, Oman, England and Cyprus.

"Not only has the rally registered one of the highest number of competitors for a long time, but it also represents the highest quality of entrants in the Middle East championship rally," RACJ Director Derek Ledger told reporters.

"We are fortunate in having such excellent participation," he said, adding that those taking part represent the "cream of rally competitors in the Middle East and Europe."

The rally — one of the most prestigious of the Kingdom's sporting events — forms one of the five rounds of the Middle East Rally Championship. The two-day competition will cover a total of 981 kilometres that will take participants from Jerash in the north to Petra in the south.

Qatar's Sheikh Hamad Al Thani who won the event last year will be defending his title in his Toyota Celica GT 4. The well-known former Jordan Rally champion Mohammad Bin Sulayman from the UAE is back again and is expected to be a strong contender for the title in his Ford Escort RS Cosworth.

Italy's Franco Corradine who led the 1993 rally before he retired in the final stages

will also be taking part in his Lancia Delta Integrale HF, as will Qatar's Naser Al Attia in a Toyota Celica GT4.

Other top Arab teams include the UAE's Sheikh Suhail Bin Khalifa Maktoom, Lebanon's Michel Saleh and Saudi Arabia's Abdullah Bakhshab.

Action Pool, a leading Belgian media consultancy company who acted as the European representatives of the rally have succeeded in ensuring the participation of top European teams. They will also oversee the coverage of the event on the Eurosport programme, the NBC Superchannel and the Belgian national television.

This year's rally is expected to be more challenging and tough as RACJ announced that only group A and N homologated cars would be allowed to compete. Thus Jordanian drivers will have to put up a big effort as they face better equipped and more experienced teams from the Arab Gulf and Europe.

European crews include Mitsubishi and Opel teams in addition to Ireland's Richie Holford in a Ford Escort, Coen Vink of the Netherlands in a Subaru Legacy RS 4x4 Turbo, and former UK champion Graham Middleton whose co-driver will be Jordan's 1993 co-drivers' champions Faisal Sa'doun.

Two women's teams will also be taking part. Lebanon's Hanady Salloun and Rita Za'our in a Peugeot 309 GT 16V, and England's Jane Cunningham and Pauline Gullik in a Mazda 323 4WD.

Thirteen competitors will represent the Kingdom, including 1993 Jordan championship's runner-up Tarek Tabaa, third placed Ahmad Daoud and fourth placed Bashar Bustami.

His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ben Al Hussein is scheduled to give the start signal as competitors set off from the Roman Amphitheatre in downtown Amman for the first leg of the rally that will take

them northwards on asphalt roads for a route of 341 kilometres including 99 kilometres of 12 special stages testing the skill of even the most seasoned competitors as they drive through forests and groves forming one of the most scenic parts of Jordan.

The second leg of the rally will set off Friday morning from rally headquarters at the Forte Grand Hotel in Amman heading southwards for a gruelling 641 kilometre drive encompassing 300 kilometres of 11 special stages that will determine the eventual winner of the rally expected to be completed at 8.15 p.m.

RACJ officials seem very encouraged by the fact that Camel — one of the major brand names associated with motor sports worldwide — will be sponsoring the event in 1994 and 1995.

"Camel is a prestigious name in motor sports, and we are very happy to be associated with them," noted Mr. Ledger.

He also said it was very gratifying that a major Jordanian company is supporting the event referring to the fact that Camel, one of the main sponsors of the World Championship Formula One, is now being manufactured in Jordan by the Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette Co. in a joint venture with R.J. Reynolds Tobacco International.

RACJ officials are hopeful that the Jordan Rally will soon form one of the 10 rounds of the World Rally Championship and the interest shown by representatives from the International Automobile Federation (FIA) following up the development of the Jordan rally throughout the years is most promising.

"The Jordan International Rally's reputation as the best rally of the Middle East is undisputed. We are looking at the World Championship, which will be the pinnacle of our achievements," Ledger noted.

This year, FIA's Ricardo

Cecchi of Italy, one of five officials who specialise in the world championship rallies, will be the official inspector of the rally.

For the first time FIA has appointed a technical delegate to a Middle East rally. Jaako Markula of Finland will be in charge of technical scrutineering to ensure that all competing cars comply with the standards and regulations required in such an international rally.

The committee of international stewards — the body that judges all aspects of the rally and interprets the rules and regulations — will be headed by Wilhelm Lyding, President of the German Motor Sports Federation. The committee will also include Christos Kyriakides of Cyprus and FIA Vice President Alec Dardoufas of the Automobile and Touring Club of Greece which is responsible for the organising of the Acropolis Rally, one of the major World Championship events.

RACJ officials said that the route of the rally had been improved and desert tracks had been cleared cooperation with the Ministry of Public Works.

Press representatives again urged RACJ as well as their sponsors, including Royal Jordanian, Aramex, Camel, the Forte Grand and many others to support Jordanian drivers to enable a Jordanian competitor to win the event for the first time, especially that Jordan's 1993 champion Amjad Farrah has announced that he would not be taking part in the international rally due to lack of sponsorship needed in such an event.

Charles Barker, the general manager of the Forte Grand, announced that the hotel had undertaken the complete of Jordan's Bahsar Bustami, while the Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette Company also announced that they would be presenting cash awards to the top four Jordanian participants.

## Pacers sweep Orlando, advance to 2nd round

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — The Indiana Pacers, perennial first-round losers, outscored Orlando 31-14 in the fourth quarter Monday to complete a three-game sweep of the Magic and advance to the second round of the NBA playoffs for the first time in franchise history.

Reggie Miller scored eight of his 31 points in a 13-0 fourth-quarter run and Rik Smits added 22 points to pace the Pacers, who won the first two games in Orlando by a combined total of just three points.

Dale Davis contributed 12 points and 14 rebounds for the Pacers, who will play the winner of the Atlanta-Miami series in the second round.

"We'll be ready for whoever we play," said Miller. Shaquille O'Neal scored 23 points and grabbed 14 rebounds to lead the Magic, who were making their first-ever playoff appearance.

Orlando led 72-68 after three quarters and took its

biggest lead of the game at 78-70 with 10:17 to play as they tried to stave off elimination.

But Miller hit an 18-foot turnaround jumper with 7:19 remaining to put the Pacers in front at 81-80 and they were off to the races. Miller and Vern Fleming each hit jumpers, then Miller capped the burst with a three-pointer to give the Pacers a 88-80 lead with 4:27 to play.

O'Neal scored four straight points to pull Orlando within four, but Antonio Davis blocked a layup attempt by Anfernee Hardaway, triggering an 8-0 Indiana run that put the game away at 98-84 with 50 seconds remaining.

In Seattle, Reggie Williams saved his best game of the season for Denver's do-or-die situation.

Williams scored a career playoff-high 31 points to lead the Nuggets to a 110-93 thumping of the league-best Seattle SuperSonics as Denver staved

off elimination in their first round Western Conference playoff series.

Seattle, which won the first two games at home, leads the best-of-five series two games to one with game four in Denver Thursday night.

Dikembe Mutombo added

19 points and Rodney Rogers chipped in 15 off the bench for Denver, which is making its first playoff appearance since 1990.

Detlef Schrempf scored 18 points to lead the Sonics, who were seeking their first-ever playoff sweep.

## Children for Children charity carnival was a big success

The Amman Marriott Hotel hosted the children charity carnival for the benefit of the S.O.S. Children Villages of Jordan.

The carnival was a youngsters gathering to help other children find a home, family and love at S.O.S. villages in Jordan and to build bridges of friendship among other children.

The carnival included lots of music shows, folkloric dances, games and best prize for the best costume. With the help of participants, donors and the big crowd that attended, the carnival made a total of JD 4,000, all went to the S.O.S. children villages of Jordan.

## Darby hands title to M. United

LONDON (R) — Manchester United clinched their second successive English league championship late Monday when nearest rivals Blackburn lost 2-1 at Coventry.

Defender Julian Darby finally ended a Blackburn's dogged challenge for the title with a goal in each half.

Blackburn were left trailing

the champion by five points with only one game remaining after Monday's defeat.

Kenny Dalglish's team had to settle for the consolation of a UEFA Cup place — their first venture into European competition next season.

Coventry rocked Blackburn when Darby put them ahead after just 11 minutes.

But Blackburn kept their nerve and equalised in the 29th minute when England defender Graeme Le Saux scored his second goal of the season with a cracking drive from well outside the box.

Darby, a mid-season buy from Bolton who had scored only three goals for Coventry before Monday, sank Dalglish's side with a second goal in the 55th minute.

Unmarked in the penalty area, Darby slipped the ball under goalkeeper Tim Flowers' hands.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSH  
(1993 Tribune Middle Eastern)

HELD UP BY A HOLD-UP

Both vulnerable. South deals.  
NORTH  
♠ 10 8 7  
♥ 10 8 4  
♦ 10 9 8 7  
♣ 10 9 8 7  
WEST  
♠ K J 8 2  
♥ 6 5 3  
♦ 6 4  
♣ 8 7 3 2  
EAST  
♠ Q 7 6 5  
♥ K Q J 9  
♦ K 3 2  
♣ 6 5  
SOUTH  
♠ A 9 4  
♥ A 7 2  
♦ J Q 6  
♣ K Q J 4

The bidding: South West 1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass. Pass Pass.

Opening lead: Two of ♠. There is a time for everything under the sun. Just make sure, when you adopt a tactic, that you don't trade the boiling pot for a sizzling frying pan.

We fully endorse North's jump to three no trump on "only" eight points. Since the two aces are undervalued in the point count, the five-card suit headed by two honors is surely worth an extra point and the excellent intermediates make

the hand even more attractive, it's our choice. West led the two of spades to East's queen. Declarer, who had just completed a course of lessons that included one on hold-up plays, withheld the ace. East shifted to the king of hearts and declarer could not afford to win that trick either. Whether East continued with a heart or reverted to spades was now immaterial — the defenders were bound to come to at least four major-suit tricks and the king of diamonds.

Hold-up plays are necessary tools of the trade, but cannot be employed indiscriminately! There were at least two good reasons for South to spurn the hold-up here. First, the lead of the two of spades suggests the suit was going to break 4-4. By winning the ace of spades and taking the diamond finesse, the defenders, in all probability, would not be able to take more than three spades and one diamond should the finesse fail.

Equally persuasive was the fact that a heart shift by the defenders could be at least as devastating as a spade continuation. So the simple play of winning the ace of spades and attacking diamonds would have brought home the contract.



### Archaeological courses at the Friends of Archaeology Centre

The first course in a series of archaeological courses will start on May 8th, 1994. This course is entitled:

General Introduction to Archaeology in Jordan.

The course consists of six sessions, one and one-half hour per session, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Sundays at the Friends of Archaeology Centre.

Each session is self contained and handouts for each session will be provided. At the end of the course participants will receive a certificate (there will not be any exams).

This course is designed to inspire you and acquaint you with the richness of Jordan's archaeological heritage. We want you to learn to appreciate the archaeological sites and to learn more about what archaeologists do!

The fee for this course will be JD 25. For more details contact Ms. Luna Khirfan at the FoA Centre, telephone 696682 between 8:30 - 2:00

### JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO LTD

announces the invitation to tender No. 9F/94

JPMC announces the invitation to Tender No. 9F/94 for the supply of (lubricating oils, and greases).

The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman, Supply Department, until 2:00 p.m. local time Monday 23.5.1994. Application for documents should be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of JD (25) for each set of tender documents.

The closing date for submitting tenders is 12:00 hours local time Monday 30th May 1994.

Sameh Madani  
Managing Director

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	<b>PHILADELPHIA</b>	<b>PLAZA</b>	<b>CONCORD</b>	<b>AMMOUN THEATRE</b>	<b>Nabil Al Mashini Theatre</b>	<b>AHLAN THEATRE</b>
<b>TODAY</b>	<b>FLATLINERS</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays Tom & Jerry at 11 a.m.	<b>Trouble Bound</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	<b>CONCORD '1'</b> Silence of the Lambs Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 <b>CONCORD '2'</b> Perfect World Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	The political comedy play <b>FORBIDDEN</b> Every night at 8:30 p.m.	Coming soon Abu Awad in: The new comedy play: <b>"A PUNCTURED BAG"</b> Directed by Ghassan Al Mashini	The political comedy play: <b>"WHAT A PEACE!"</b> (Al Salam Ya Salam) At: 8:30 p.m. For reservations please call 625155



## Jordan-Egypt committee meets tomorrow

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee is scheduled to meet here Thursday and Friday for its first meeting in nearly four years after several postponements since early this year.

The meeting will be co-chaired by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali and his Egyptian counterpart Atef Sedki and attended by ministers of trade and industry, planning and finance from both sides.

Dr. Sedki and the delegation to the meeting are expected to arrive here Wednesday afternoon, a spokesman for the Egyptian embassy said.

His Majesty King Hussein is expected to receive Dr. Sedki, who will also formally convey President Hosni Mubarak's condolences to the King over the death of Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother,

who passed away last week. President Mubarak was among the Arab leaders who personally contacted King Hussein over the phone to pay condolences immediately after the passing away of the Queen Mother.

The Council of Ministers was briefed Tuesday on preparations for the meeting by experts from both sides who have prepared an agenda as well as recommendations in various areas of cooperation.

No details were immediately available on the recommendations for the two-day meeting, but officials have said that both sides were aiming to increase the volume of trade from the present JD 40 million.

Other key issues for discussion include the status of Egyptian workers in Jordan, students from the two sides in each other's universities, expansion of the work of a joint holding company, as well as a review of the progress of work on linking the national power grids of the two countries.

The joint committee, which last met in July 1990, was supposed to have convened in March. But the meeting was postponed upon the request of the Egyptian government.

The committee is supposed to meet once every six months alternating between the two capitals to chalk out cooperation programmes in economy, labour, energy, tourism, information etc.

But the strain in relations resulting from the Gulf crisis froze the meetings of the committee. The strain was healed after King Hussein paid a visit to Cairo and held talks with President Mubarak late last year.

"Both sides have suffered from the absence of the committee meetings," said an Arab diplomat. "Hopefully this week's meeting will streamline trade and economic relations as well as straighten out cooperation at the regional and international levels."

Another issue for discussion for the committee is the situation of projects related to the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), which went into limbo after the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The ACC grouped Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and Yemen.

The Egyptian parliament, upon the recommendation of the government, adopted a resolution in December to suspend Egypt's membership in the council.

Several Jordanian-Egyptian projects designed before the formation of the council were expanded to include Iraq and Yemen after the body was founded in 1989.

In view of the dormant status of the council and the continuing international sanctions against Iraq, Amman and Cairo have to come up with measures to pursue part of the projects, some of them in modified forms, diplomats say.

## Mediators in south amid mounting tension in Yemen

ADEN (Agencies) — A team of Arab, American and French military officials arrived here Tuesday in a last-ditch effort to separate rival northern and southern troops and prevent Yemen from sliding towards civil war.

They arrived after an appeal by U.S. President Bill Clinton for an end to the feud between President Ali Abdullah Saleh and southern Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh.

The quarrel has brought the Arabian peninsula's most populous country and first multi-party democracy to the brink of civil war.

The mediating team arrived in Aden as a military source in Sanaa said a southern Yemeni military aircraft has been shot

down by rival northern troops stationed in the south. The MiG-21 fighter "was shot down by ground fire on Monday evening when a group of (southern) planes tried to carry out provocative sorties over the camp of the (northern) second armoured brigade at Al Raha in Lahj," the source told Reuters.

Mr. Beidh accused President Saleh of planning to circle southern army units.

Northern troops are being deployed and reinforcements are on the move to circle some (southern) military units "stationed in the north," Mr. Beidh told mediators late Monday in Aden.

Former North and South Yemen united in May 1990.

Although their armies were never merged, several units were switched over to opposite sides of the former border.

Mr. Beidh condemned the fighting last week between rival troops in Amran, 60 kilometres north of Sanaa, as "a crime and high treason."

The clashes left 79 dead and 119 wounded, according to official northern figures.

The so-called joint military commission, led by northern Colonel Ali Saleh, includes defence advisers from Jordan and Oman, and American and French military attaches.

On Monday it persuaded northern troops to lift their six-day siege of remnants of the southern third brigade.

## Self-rule deal draws mixed reactions in Jordan street

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Mixed feelings characterised Palestinians' and Jordanians' reaction on Tuesday towards the signing of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) agreement on autonomy for the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

The signing ceremony, scheduled to take place today in Egypt, appeared to have stirred powerful emotions in people.

"This is a major step for us. It's the beginning of a thorny path that we have to take. Despite all difficulties that lie ahead I think it is the best anxious as I do not want our achievements to end just here," said Iman Amer, a Palestinian housewife.

Israel and the PLO will sign the agreement on Palestinian self-rule after over six months of negotiations. The autonomy accord would "give the Palestinian people for the first time the right to have a hand in its own destiny on its own territory," says the declaration of principles Israel and the PLO signed on Sept. 13.

Under the declaration of principles, Palestinians in the occupied territories will have autonomy for five years, pending the results of permanent status negotiations slated to begin not later than

the third year. Ibrahim Quba'a, member of the Palestine Central Council, described the signing of the accord as the beginning of yet many more celebrations to come.

"It is the birth of a new Palestinian era and the death of an old Zionist one," Mr. Quba'a said, adding that the new Palestinian entity "will be a model of democracy and progress in the 21st century."

He added that the timing of the signing of the Cairo agreement coincides with the victory of Nelson Mandela in South Africa in elections after years of oppression. He drew symbolic links between the end of the apartheid in South Africa and the "first step towards total independence for Palestinians."

Deputy Ali Abul Ragheb told the Jordan Times that he was not comfortable with the "ambiguity" of the agreement which he said was "not up to my expectations" as information about many issues involved is being withheld. Mr. Abul Ragheb also expressed disappointment at the lack of coordination between Jordan and the PLO.

He said the Palestinians should focus more on benefiting from the international support offered to them and described the agreement as "too fast with too little accomplishments."

A former government official who asked not to be named said: "We are going to

witness the emergence of yet another Arab bureaucracy across our borders." He described the PLO leadership's style of handling decision-making as a "one-man rule syndrome which characterises the nature of the peace talks and the signing of the self-rule agreement."

According to the former official, the process did not include representation of all Palestinian sectors.

"This is indicative of the nature of the ruling authorities in Gaza and Jericho once self-rule is established," the former official asserted.

Rana Jabl, a student at the University of Jordan, said that she was very pessimistic about the shape of the future of the Palestinians.

"Despite what they say about this being our last chance for peace, I do not believe that we are well-equipped to deal with the situation in a positive manner," said Ms. Jabl, adding that the whole peace process was nothing but a "bundle of concessions."

Sawsan Shumar, a Palestinian human rights activist, said there are "uncertainties and no solid grounds" in the agreement.

"I have a gut feeling that things will not work the way we want them to," Ms. Shumar said. "All signs indicate that the peace progress is moving in a direction that is not in Palestinians' best interests."

### Syria:

(Continued from page 1)  
said towns and villages destroyed by Israel would need to be rebuilt.

Mr. Assad's proposal was a response to an Israeli package, carried to Damascus by Mr. Christopher last Saturday, that offered a phased, partial Israeli pullout.

The package did not meet Mr. Assad's demand for total return of the land. But Mr. Assad found enough in it that was promising to send Mr. Christopher to Jerusalem with a counter offer.

Mr. Christopher said he plans to return to the Middle East in mid-May to continue coaxing the peace process along.

"It's more detailed than it was before," Mr. Christopher said of the Syrian offer.

Even so, Israel and Syria have begun laying the groundwork for a total Israeli pullout from the Golan Heights as part of a peace treaty between the two longtime foes.

They are bargaining over the timing of a withdrawal, security arrangements and uprooting of most if not all the 13,000 Jewish settlers, diplomatic officials disclosed Monday night.

### Deputies rush through law

(Continued from page 1)  
tax from 10 to seven per cent.

The House will resume its debate of the draft law today amidst expectations it will approve most of the remaining articles in a speedy way as both the Financial Committee and the government are in agreement over them.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Affairs Committee at the House discussed the new entry and exit procedures for Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza with Interior Minister Salameh Hamad.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported that the committee expressed satisfaction with the answers Mr. Hamad provided to their questions, which dealt with the impact of the new procedures

on Palestinians and the motivations behind them.

Senate returns municipalities law

The Upper House of Parliament, the Senate, on Tuesday returned a draft law on municipalities to the House after amending it to have half the members of the Greater Amman Municipal Council appointed by the government.

The amended article corresponds with the original drafting of the legislation that was presented by the government to the House during its first ordinary session which ended in May. But the House is expected to hold firm on its stand, insisting that two thirds of the council be elected.

### Israel reserves final say in deal

(Continued from page 1)

Israeli definition of security — a direct result of the first Cairo agreement signed last January.

Under the accord, the Palestinian police force is obliged to prevent Palestinian infiltrations and "terrorist attacks." But the agreement does not specify whether it is authorised to detain Israeli civilians regardless of the conditions.

Annex II refers to "terrorist" acts from source. The proposed security arrangements in Gaza and Jericho clearly stipulate that Palestinian police "will enforce special security measures aimed at preventing infiltrations across the delineating line or the introduction into the security perimeters if any arms, ammunitions or related equipment."

But the agreements do not allow the Palestinian police to prevent "terrorist" acts from the Israeli side.

According to the Rules of Conduct, which have sparked internal controversy within the leadership's ranks in Tunis, the Palestinian police cannot detain an Israeli regardless of the situation.

The role of the joint patrols and joint mobile units, each of which will consist of two four-wheel vehicles, largely depends on the area of operation.

The agreement and its annexes state that in areas controlled by Palestinians, the Palestinian vehicle leads while in other areas the Israeli vehicle is in charge.

What remains unclear is the decisive issue of legal jurisdiction that will determine the terms of reference for the Palestinian police and the Palestinian authority.

Although Mr. Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin were supposed to have resolved this sensitive issue, any vague agreement will mean that Israeli law will effectively be the main source of legal jurisdiction, further undermining the role of the Palestinian authority, Palestinian officials fear.

## Israel allows more expellees to return

By a Jordan Times  
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Israel has granted permission to 65 more Palestinian expellees to return to the occupied territories this week to coincide with the signing of the autonomy agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Wednesday, Palestinian sources said Tuesday.

The sources said most of the 65 were believed to be staunch supporters of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah group and a few others were either independent or belonging to the Palestine People's Party or FIDA, the political group launched by PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abud Rabbo.

A few of the returnees will be crossing the King Hussein Bridge, perhaps on Wednesday, and others will enter the Gaza Strip through the Rafah crossing from Egypt, said one source.

Khalid Mismar, a spokesman for the PLO mission here, was quoted as saying by the AP that the 15 Palestinians will cross the King Hussein Bridge on Wednesday.

The sources could not provide a full list of the 65, but said not all of them were given Israeli permission at the Cairo negotiations on implementing autonomy.

"There are other channels of communications between Israel and Tunis," where the PLO is headquartered said one source, in an implicit reference to what many Palestinians see as cooperation between Israel and the PLO to ensure that enough Fatah loyalists are in place in the occupied territories by the time autonomy starts there.

The 65 are the latest Palestinian expellees given permission by the Israelis to return home after the Middle East peace process was launched in Madrid in September 1991.

They will raise to nearly 200 the total number of deportees — not including family members — allowed to return home after the Madrid conference. In addition, around 30 Palestinians who fled the occupied territories to evade capture after the intifada broke out in December 1987 have also been allowed to return home.

The process of return is expected to be speeded up after the Cairo agreement is signed on Wednesday, said one source, referring to the record Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Mr. Arafat

are expected to formalise in the Egyptian capital.

Meanwhile, an unknown number of PLO officials entered the occupied territories across the King Hussein Bridge and the Rafah crossing on Tuesday to finalise preparations for the deployment of the police force of the autonomy. "It is very important to ensure that there is a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities," said the source. However, it is highly unlikely that there will be any physical handover of posts or stations by the Israelis to the police-men.

"By the time the policemen move, the Israelis will be long gone," said the source.

PLO officials have said that between 300 and 500 Palestinian policemen, members of the Palestine Liberation Army who underwent police training in Jordan, were poised to move into Jericho as early as Thursday.

According to PLO officials here, there are between 1,500 and 2,000 Palestinian policemen in Jordan and up to 1,000 in Iraq awaiting moving orders into the occupied territories.

"Their deployment will be gradual," said one official. "The logistics of their movements have to be closely coordinated with the Israelis."

However, the first batch is expected to go in with full ceremony, in a PLO bid to instill confidence among the Palestinians in the occupied territories that the Sept. 13 autonomy accord is working.

Israel has agreed to allow a 9,000-strong police force to take charge of internal security in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, the territories that come under autonomy in the first phase of the landmark Sept. 13 accord signed in Washington.

The AFP reported from the occupied Gaza Strip that 1,000 Palestinian policemen will arrive in the occupied Gaza Strip Thursday after the self-rule accord has been signed. The contingent, currently based at El Arish in the Sinai Peninsula, will enter the strip from Egypt via the Rafah border crossing.

Earlier on Thursday 11 Senior PLA officers will arrive in Gaza from Egypt. They will join General Ziad Arafat and Farouk Amin in a 13-strong Palestinian liaison group due to arrange the security transfer with the Israeli army.

Mr. Amin was the highest-ranking Palestinian in the Israeli police force before he resigned in 1988 following the start of the intifada.

## Israel pressed to negotiate nuclear arms in Doha talks

DOHA (Agencies) — Israel came under pressure on Tuesday to accept negotiation on the future of its nuclear weapons as part of confidence-building measures to lessen future military tensions in the Middle East.

On the eve of the signing of a key agreement in Cairo on a Palestinian self-rule authority in Gaza and Jericho, the Jewish state was warned by Arabs that its nuclear programme may eventually torpedo any hard-won peace with its neighbours.

Qatar delighted Israelis by letting them into the country for the first time for arms control talks and dangled the carrot of lucrative Gulf business when it talked to them earlier of a future gas pipeline.

It told them on Tuesday that their nuclear arms were a threat not just to peace in the region but to the world.

"We demand that all states of the region adhere to the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, while submitting their nuclear installations... for inspection," Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Hamad Ben Jassem Al Thani said.

He was opening a three-day conference on arms control to prepare for a conflict-free Middle East.

Conference sources said as the talks opened Israel remained reluctant to bring its nuclear programme into the negotiations spawned by the 1991 Madrid peace conference.

The Jewish state does not openly admit that it owns atomic arms but has so far failed to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty and refused to open its facilities to international inspectors.

The sources said it was arguing that weapons of mass destruction such as nuclear, chemical and biological arms, should not be discussed in the absence from the negotiations of major regional players like Syria, Iran and Iraq.

"Some issues are too early to be discussed because not all the states in the region are involved in the process," Yossi Draznin of the Israeli defence ministry told Reuters.

More than 40 states, including Israel and most Arab countries, were taking part in the multilateral talks.

## Israel tightens 'open-fire' orders in occupied lands

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(Agencies) — Israeli soldiers have been given new orders not to shoot at Palestinians unless they are in "real danger" and to let them celebrate freely after Wednesday's signing of the autonomy deal, an army spokesman said.

However, the army intends to cut off the main roads into the West Bank and Gaza Strip to prevent Jewish settlers from protesting against the launch of self-rule.

Central region commander General Ilan Biran has instructed units in the occupied territories not to use live bullets "except in cases where a real and obvious danger exists."

"We are entering a complicated and sensitive period," the spokesman said.

"We have to avoid endangering the lives of the local people, Jews and Arabs."

"Joyous celebrations and demonstrations have to be allowed but only inside localities or settlements and not on main roads."

The use of rubber bullets and tear-gas was still authorised.

However, troops captured two Palestinians from Fatah in

Nabulus on Tuesday.

Ten Jewish settlers were arrested and three hurt during protests around Jericho, which is set to become an autonomous Palestinian enclave, police said.

Demonstrators torched tyres and halted traffic outside two settlements on the main Jordan Valley road north of Jericho. "Rabin resign," chanted settlers who sat down in the middle of the road.

Police dragged 10 of them away, including a rabbi, while three were lightly hurt in scuffles.

One of the organisers, Avihel Israeli, said the demonstration was intended "to stop Rabin from surrendering to Yasser Arafat."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat have still to agree on the size of the Jericho enclave although the signing ceremony for an accord to launch autonomy is scheduled for Wednesday.

"For us every square kilometre of the Jordan Valley is precious because our safety depends on it," Mr. Israeli said.

## Jordan to attend Cairo signing

(Continued from page 1)

A senior Jordanian official told the Jordan Times on Monday that Jordan had sent a letter regretting that it would not be able to attend the ceremony. A PLO official also confirmed that the organisation had received a negative reply from the Kingdom.

It was not immediately clear what caused the change of heart between late Monday and Tuesday. According to well-informed sources, Dr. Majali himself was arguing for a Jordanian representation at the ceremony, especially that 45 other foreign ministers from around the world were scheduled to attend.

Jordan had intended to use the occasion to register its growing displeasure at the low level of co-ordination by the

PLO with Jordan over decisions that ultimately affect vital Jordanian interests.

The Kingdom also believed that attending the meeting would contradict a vow to suspend its active role in Middle East peace negotiations until it finalised an agreement with Washington whereby inspections of vessels heading to Aqaba would be conducted by Lloyd's Register of London.

Dr. Majali, according to the sources, had argued that with 43 foreign ministers attending the signing ceremony "Jordan's presence can be treated like that of any of these countries."

According to the sources, the premier also believed that Jordan's absence would cause "more embarrassment for the Kingdom than would serve its purpose."

Other sources said that at least one other factor figured in the decision of the government to attend the Cairo meeting. After several delays the Joint Egyptian-Jordanian Higher Committee was scheduled to begin talks here Thursday headed by Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki and Dr. Majali.

"If only to show good will to this scheduled meeting, Jordan probably could not have boycotted a ceremony hosted by Egypt," a well-informed analyst said.

PLO sources also said Tuesday that the organisation had insisted on Jordanian attendance till the time the decision was taken by the Cabinet and that the PLO would have liked Jordan's prime minister to be present at the signing ceremony.

## Majali: No Aqaba arrangement yet

(Continued from page 1)

The prime minister underlined the need for ending inter-Arab differences and "to open a new chapter, particularly at this critical stage."

Dr. Majali said it was essential that the Arabs assume an effective role in any regional order.

He said features of the "new world order" were not yet clear enough, nor are those of the regional Arab order.

"The only clear thing is that the United States is dominating the world under the new order," he added.

Dr. Majali said "There is no room under the new order for spectators" and emphasised the need for effective Arab input in shaping this order.

Dr. Majali said Jordan's participation in the multilateral peace talks has been reduced

## COLUMN 800000

### Mrs. Clinton goes grocery shopping

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton did some grocery shopping Monday, spending \$15.50 on a basket of staples and treats, including low-fat sour cream, tuna fish, and an exotic Mexican root. "I'm just delighted to be in a store," the first lady said at a supermarket where she made a plea for health reform. "Even when my husband was governor I'd go to the store and I felt like a normal person and my daughter and I would go up and down the aisles and we'd buy things and we'd take it home and cook it," she said. "I know this sounds funny, especially for the women in the audience, that you would ever miss going to the store, buying things and taking them home and cooking them." But trust me, you would," she said. Accompanied by Eleanor Holmes Norton, the District of Columbia's non-voting delegate to Congress, Mrs. Clinton spent 10 minutes shopping in the huge supermarket, carrying her purchases in a red basket. They included rice, beans, a plain bagel, two biscotti, a mango, the low-fat sour cream, a salad, a passia pepper and a jicama, the fleshy root of a Mexican vine, used for mixtures into which Americans dip dry biscuits or vegetables — usually go with drinks. She took a \$20 bill from her purse to pay for the purchases.

### Reward leads to 200 tips on vanished assets

BERLIN (AP) — Offer a reward, and the tips will come especially if the reward is a fat 5 million marks, equivalent to \$3,012,000. The commission searching for vanished assets of the defunct East German Communist Party said Monday it has received more than 200 tips since it started advertising the reward several weeks ago. About half the tips contain "very detailed information," said Hans-Juergen Papier, head of the commission. Many of the tips are being taken seriously, including about 25 from Switzerland. The big reward will be divided among those offering the most helpful clues. Swiss prosecutors and German investigators are working together on two cases to uncover about 500 million marks (\$300 million) believed to have been transferred to Switzerland, Papier said. Since German unification in 1990, authorities have failed to corral hundreds of millions of marks of East German assets that should have gone to the national treasury. The reformer, successor of the Communist Party, called the Party for Democratic Socialism, is in negotiations with the commission on handing over its assets. Mr. Papier said the party has frozen financial assets of 843 million marks (\$508 million) and other properties worth several hundred million marks. In addition to the missing assets of the ruling East German party, it is believed that about 20 billion marks (\$12 billion) were lost to various frauds after unification, Mr. Papier said.

### Beijing eases one-child rule for divorcees

HONG KONG (AFP) — The Hong Kong authorities have decided to ease China's restrictive birth control policy, by allowing remarried couples to have their own child, it was reported Tuesday. A remarried couple can seek permission from the Beijing Family Planning Committee to have another child even if they had children from previous marriages, the semi-official Hong Kong China News Service said. Under Chinese law, each family can only have one child. The government has been very concerned to stop a further explosion of the 1.2 billion population. The new measure was adopted following a survey by the Family Planning Committee which showed that 34 to 40 per cent of remarried couples want children of their own. The committee decided to bend the birth control policy in urban areas to help remarried couples maintain emotional ties and stabilise the new family. The committee said the move could benefit 2,359 couples who remarried between 1992-93. It added that an additional 300 to 500 children each year would not adversely affect the city's family planning.

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